



THE
Highlands

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FREE

Dec. 19 /06 -
Jan. 3 /07

Communicator

*Happy
Holidays*

Haliburton County's Good News Fun Free Newspaper



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Moore Falls

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Brett and Joanne Irvine - owners & publishers of The Communicator, and our families and staff would like to take this time to wish everyone the best during the holidays. We thank all our advertisers, writers, staff, readers and people who call us with news and send us funny stuff - we appreciate all of you more than words can say, for all you do to help make the Communicator a continued success. The paper continues to grow each year and we thank all our supporters out there who are making it possible. Don't forget to call in with all your good news, upcoming events, business happenings, organization news, club news, and great story ideas. We're here to help promote all the businesses, people, events, clubs and organizations in this county.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to everyone!! Have a safe and fun Holiday!!!!



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Season's Greetings

Christmas waves a magic wand
over this world, and behold,
everything is softer and more beautiful.

~Norman Vincent Peale



Shop, Sing and be Merry! Outloud Womyn's Choir at the Rails End Friday Dec 22

Enjoy a glass of wine and do some last minute shopping at the Rails End Gallery & Arts Centre's annual Holiday Show and Sale of Work by emerging and established artists from Haliburton County.

Special guests: Outloud Womyn's Choir will be on hand to lead us in song. Rails End Gallery & Arts Centre will provide song sheets. Bring your best voice and your Christmas shopping list. Pot luck finger foods supplemented by goodies provided by Todd's Independent Grocer, the V&S and candy canes by IGA.

The Outloud Womyn's Choir is a group of about 30 women who have been meeting since 1998 to sing songs about social justice and peace. For this event they will be singing Julian of Norwich, Solstice Carol, Born of a Star, Happy Christmas (John Lennon), Silver Bells, Feliz Navidad, Rockin Around the Christmas Tree, Winter Wonderland, and Let it Snow.

The Rails End Gallery & Arts Centre is located at 23 York Street in Haliburton. For more information call 705-457-2330.

The hardest years in life are those
between ten and seventy.

Deer Friends - Have a Very Beary Christmoose This Year!



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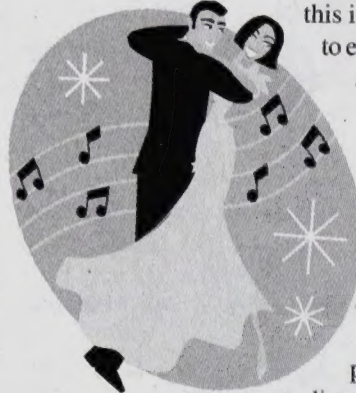
1141 Kennis Lake Rd. (County Rd. 7) Just off Hwy. 118, West Guilford

(705) 754-2285

Police Officers Ball An Annual Event for The Public

A Police Officers Ball may have you thinking of a large gathering of police officers dancing the night away. This will certainly not be the case in Minden on Dec 31st at the S.G Nesbitt Memorial Centre in Minden. The event is planned and brought to you by the Minden O.P.P as a fundraiser for organizations within the highlands, and

while there will be some officers present, this is an event for the people of the area to enjoy. (Remember, it's New Years Eve and many officers have to work that night.)



The Police Officers Ball will feature a cocktail hour, dinner, dance and prizes to follow. Some items up for grabs include a night for two to Bonnie View Inn and a bar fridge.

Tickets to the evening are \$25 per person and include a roast beef dinner catered by Joyce Wright. Monies

raised from the evening will benefit SIRCH this year.

The idea for the evening came from Minden residents Peter and Lisa Allore, who had been involved with Police Officers Balls during Peter's posting in Sioux Lookout. "They were really successful up there and we thought - why not have one here in Minden?", says Lisa. The intention is to make the evening an annual event with money going to local organizations each year.

The event is licensed by LLBO, and for those who wish to enjoy an alcohol free event, and also for designated drivers, non-alcoholic drinks are complimentary. The dance runs till 2 a.m. Tickets are available at the O.P.P detachment in Minden and at SIRCH in Haliburton, or you can call Lisa Allore at 286-1110. Please note that all tickets must be purchased by December 24th so arrangements can be made for the dinner reservations. If you're looking for something to do on New Years Eve be sure to check into this event. Sounds like a lot of fun and helps a great cause at the same time.

MERRY CHRISTMAS



from Sharon, Karen, Paula,
Geraldine, and Debbie

Jewels

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**HAPPY
NEW YEAR!**

104 Main St., Minden
286-1132

Home Builder's Hockey Tournament Fast Approaching - Time To Register Your Teams!!

The arena in Haliburton is always a bustle of activity, and that won't change on January 26 – 28th, as teams take to the ice for the 9th annual Home Builders Charity Hockey Tournament in Haliburton. Some tournament games will also take place at the Wilberforce Arena on Saturday. The tournament has grown from 6 teams nine years ago to more than twenty five. This growth means that the tournament will need 2 rinks for part of the weekend.

This tournament offers four divisions - an open division for any non-members to participate, Home Builders division - closed to members only, an over 35 division and a ladies division. The cost per team is \$550, and is non-contact hockey in all divisions. There will be prizes awarded to the winners in all divisions.

The organizers are still seeking sponsors for ice time. "You can sponsor as little as a half hour or as many hours as you feel like sponsoring," explains Aggie. The cost to sponsor is \$102 per hour plus gst. "We will be using over 40 hours of ice in both Haliburton and Wilberforce."

Proceeds from this worthwhile cause go to the 4c's for the Haliburton County & Minden Food Banks. Aggie explains that they chose

this charity because, "after Christmas, there isn't much food left in the food bank. We, the Home Builders association, like to be involved in the community and we felt this was a very worthwhile cause."



**Spectators Encouraged &
Don't Forget To Get Your
Ticket For Your Chance
At GREAT Prizes!!**

Spectators are encouraged to come out and watch the hockey excitement. "It's fun hockey. We want people in there watching," says Aggie. Admission to watch is by donation. Also, once in the tournament, be sure to purchase tickets to two great draws. One lucky winner will receive 27" RCA television compliments of Halco Electronics in Haliburton. The grand prize winner will receive a \$3000 travel voucher compliments of Travel Plus in Haliburton. Nice!! If you cannot attend the tournament but would like to purchase a ticket on the draws, they are available from any Home Builder member. To find out where to get a ticket call Aggie at 457-2629. There will also be a licensed bar upstairs in the Haliburton Arena open during the tournament and a dance featuring DJ music Friday and Saturday nights.

The games get underway at approximately 6 p.m. on the Friday. Finals conclude on the Sunday around 5 p.m.

For more information, or to obtain a registration form contact Wade Woodward at 457-2638, Aggie at 457-2629, or Dennis McKee at 457-2156. You can also check the website at www.haliburtonhomebuilders.on.ca

Public Skating Time Again

Grab your skates and head to any one of the three area arenas during their public skating times and enjoy a few laps around the rink.

S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena in Minden.

There is not a "set day" for public skating in Minden.

Free Public skating in Minden for the month of December and beginning of January is on the following dates: Sunday, December 24th, 27th (Sponsored by Tim Hortons), 28th, 29th (Sponsored by Tim Hortons), 30th and 31st from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. January dates: 3rd, 4th, and 5th (Sponsored by Tim Hortons) and 7th from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

More dates will be added in the New Year. We'll try to fill you in at that time, or you can call 286-1936 for dates.

Sponsorships are always welcome and will never be refused, if you would like to sponsor some ice-time, the cost is \$100.00/hr.

Dysart Community Centre in Haliburton

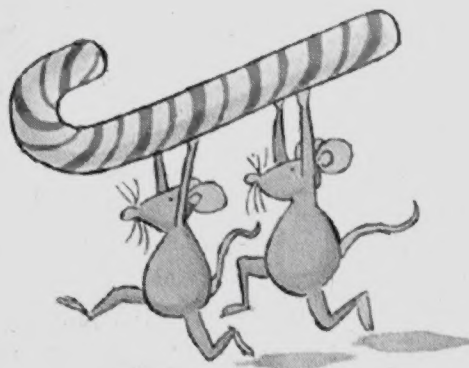
Public skating is Sundays at 1:00 – 2:15 pm and on Thursdays at 12:00 - 2:00 pm. The cost is \$2 per person on Thursdays and on Sundays the cost is \$1 per person. If there is a hockey tournament planned for that weekend, public skating is cancelled on the Sunday.

Arena Manager Dave Fideau will try to post upcoming cancellations whenever possible. For more information please call 457-2083.

Highlands East Arena in Wilberforce

Public skating is held every Sunday from 12:15 – 1:30 p.m. The cost is FREE. Note there will not be any skating on Christmas Eve day. If you have any questions, please call 448-2772.

BRING IT ON...



**Seasons Greetings
from the gang at..**



37 Mallard Rd.
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The Diving Co.

Spotlight



By George Farrell

On Business

The Diving Company Can Help You Rescue Your Submerged Snowmobile

Photos by Carol Moffatt

The powerful sled revs up on safe ice, the driver helmeted, visored, a modern day knight on his trusty steed; the event a 21st century equivalent of a joust. The atmosphere is the same, the expectant crowd, adrenalin pumping as the rider awaits the moment to launch his steed. Instead of another mounted knight the opponent is up to a kilometer of open water between sheets of lake ice. The time is at hand; gears engage and the sled moves forward. The driver increases revs and then steadies to maintain the crucial velocity of 60 to 80 kph, as the sled speeds across the ice to the oncoming open waters. The crowd oohs and aahs, cheering. The rider hears nothing except the steady buzz of the engine. He's aware of the friction of the ice and then the sudden switch in sensation as he hits the open water. Steady, steady he must maintain the constant speed. The sled creates a rooster tail of spray behind it, as it rockets unimpeded across the still waters. The far ice moves closer, closer, as the seconds tick away. Then, all too quickly, the sudden change back to the sensation of machine gripping ice. It's over. The thrill is gone, the ride complete.

Such are the experiences of the successful ride of the "puddle jumping" specialist who can be found satiating his need for thrills on any given weekend at the Dorset narrows. Sometimes though, maybe one in one hundred riders has a slightly different experience, as the sled approaches the destination ice. It's almost there, the excitement almost over, and then a sputter. The engine starts to die and a sensation of another kind comes into play as

the rider realizes that the sled will fall short. It slows abruptly. A second of inertia delays the inevitable. It's going down. The rider scrambles to the safe ice as the sled submerges to the icy depths, only bubbles rising to identify its descent. It's gone, so what now?

As incredible as it might seem to those not involved in the snowmobile experience, a business thrives in Haliburton County whose main clients are the thrill-seeking puddle jumpers; the unsuccessful ones, that is. They want their expensive machines retrieved from the near freezing waters. And they want them as soon as possible. Most of them end up calling The Diving Company. The Diving Company specializes in underwater retrievals, and it's owned and operated by Tony Aymong.

Tony is a retired (2007) City of Toronto fire fighter. Born in Toronto, Tony started coming to the Highlands to cottage with his grandparents and parents on Boshkung Lake when he was a wee bairn, in 1950. He has lived in the Highlands, on and off for most of his 56 years. He moved here permanently in 1974, where he started working as an electrical apprentice for Yake Electric. In 1977 Tony saw an ad for firefighters in the Toronto Star. He answered the ad and got the job, and he worked in Toronto and commuted to the Highlands for 25 years. In 1990 Tony met Carol Moffatt, and they were married in 1992. Tony is still a volunteer firefighter with the



The Dive Team: Atkinson, Stiver, Rogers, Aymong

The Diving Co. cont'd... pg. 5...

THE
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Regular Columnists: Donald Lange; Brenda Peddigrew; Marci Mandel; Lea Kitler

Forever In our Hearts...
Roberta Welsh - Feb 12/06

Special thanks to Larry Levely, Eddie Lehman, Karen Barter, April Lauricella; Cindy Munzel, Fred & Shirli, Jon Dannewald
Lisa Robertson, and all the other people who send in funny stuff - keep us laughing!!

RR#2 - Comp 75, Haliburton, On. K0M 1S0 email: highlands@thecomunicator.ca

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& All Our Readers!

The Diving Co. At Your Recovery Service

... from pg. 4

Stanhope/Algonquin Highlands Fire Department, something he has been doing for 28 years. Like many pilots, who have a love of sailing, perhaps it is not surprising that a firefighter should also have a love of the underwater.

Tony Aymong explains the situation. "I started diving in 1970, with a basic scuba course. I d o v e recreationally in some of these lakes in c o t t a g e

country, and when I went on vacation down south. The search and recovery aspect started as the need presented itself in the early 70's." This state of affairs continued for many years, as Tony was still working for the Toronto Fire Department. Also during this time, in 1980 to be exact, Tony purchased Yake electric, which he ran for 25 years, and he is justifiably proud of the fact that he "successfully mentored three apprentices." Tony closed Yake Electric in 2005.

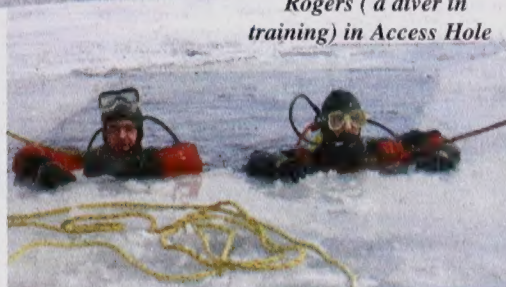
But back to things watery. What escalated the diving business for Tony was a government directive. "The Ministry of Labour passed rules and regulations concerning commercial dives," explains Tony. "A dive is called commercial when any kind of restitution is taken for work done. So all of a sudden I was a professional diver. We became a legitimate diving company, meeting the Ministry of Labour's criteria in 1996. The company has now become a successful financial endeavor after many years of getting established. "Our biggest client base represents the owners of snowmobiles, whose vehicles have gone through the ice. The owner or the insurance company gets in touch." Tony enthuses. "Dorset represents the majority of our work, because we are close, and the open-water puddle jumping is such a big thing. The activity brings thousands of dollars into the economy, some of which goes into my pocket," he laughs. "Puddle jumping in Dorset has been going on for many years, and it's become a tradition and spectator sport. The reason for the activity has not been clearly defined but male macho bragging rites has a lot to with it. In a sense I'm part of that process, even though I don't own a sled myself. My bragging rites are at the end of the year when I tally up my recovery number. The best year was 39 recoveries in 2004."

Before you young speed demons think of going out and puddle jumping the Dorset narrows it might be a good idea if you understood the costs involved in recovering your machine should you fail to make a successful run. The new rate for recovery is

Extracting a machine



Stiver and Marshall Rogers (a diver in training) in Access Hole



\$1000. Steep? You bet, but read on to find out all that a recovery entails. Tony and his team of divers must continue to be compliant with the Ministry of Labour. This includes yearly extensive

Pictured top right is owner Tony Aymong. Also pictured are some action shots of a recovery.

The Diving Co. cont'd... pg. 6...



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The Diving Co. cont'd...

... from pg. 5

medicals, schooling, certification of approved equipment and rigging, and maintenance of same. Tony must also cover the salaries of the mandatory minimum of a three-man crew, including a primary diver, secondary diver and a tender (rope man). Then there are the additional costs of vehicle maintenance and transportation to and from the site.

The Diving Company works during all the seasons, all over southern Ontario, and salvages such diverse items as boats and motors, keys, rings, and any other items of value to owners. Tony remembers, "once we went down to recover a snowmobile at Dorset, and we successfully bought it up, at which time the owner very gummily asked us if we would go down again to retrieve his very expensive set of dentures. We found them and he was delighted. He didn't flinch at the bill," Tony laughs, "because he informed us that his dentures cost considerably more." Another

time, after being asked by a client to retrieve his sled, we found it, bought it up, but we also found another sunken sled near the first one. We had no idea who it belonged to, so we bought it up too and took as much information as we could find from it. When we went to Dorset to make inquiries rumour had it that the owner refused to pay, so we went back and lowered the sled back into the water. Later the OPP verified that it was stolen, so we brought it back up and it was returned to the owner, who ended up being a City of Hamilton fire fighter."

Not all clients require retrieval. Recently the Ministry of Natural Resources contacted the diving company to do a trout egg count on Kawagama Lake.

Tony Aymong relates a typical dive for The Diving Company. "All the equipment has to go on to the site, as required by the Ministry of Labour, including 2 regulation-outfitted divers, a spare tank and regulator, first aid and oxygen, safety lines and rigging.

We also take the ATV with winch, and a chainsaw. The chainsaw is used to prepare the hole in the ice through which to bring up the sled, and also to determine where the working ice thickness is. The ice must be at least 4 to 6 inches thick to work safely. Sometimes we have to do extensive chainsaw work before we reach safe ice. The primary diver, with lifeline attached to his harness, and working line in hand, will submerge and locate the vehicle. He will tie off the

working line to the sunken sled or vehicle. He then returns to the surface with the other end of the working line which is then attached to the winch on the ATV. The sled is then hauled out and returned to the owner."

There are inherent dangers in underwater retrieval. "In the winter," Tony explains, "the water and air are extremely cold, in spite of the dry suits. You have to watch out for thin ice conditions-I fell through twice

last year with chainsaw in hand. Sometimes visibility is very limited, and just the hoisting of a heavy object can be dangerous. I have to file a notice of all commercial dives with the Ministry of Labour prior to entering the water. It's fully regulated due to the safety factors and inherent hazards. If you employ a non compliant diver (not regulated by the Ministry of Labour), and an accident happens you are liable and responsible." That should be enough, above and beyond the working conditions, to dissuade any fly by night retrieval attempts by the inexperienced.

You can contact Tony Aymong at The Diving Company by calling the main number (705) 489-3554, or by calling Tony on his cell at (416) 720-2125. The email address is loghouse@halhinet.on.ca.



Why did the Canadian cross the road? That's where his car slid to.

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Seasons Greetings

To All Residents & Cottagers that supported us through the year... we would like to say

THANK YOU

May Peace & Happiness be yours this Christmas and throughout the coming year.

Colleen, Robert & Staff

WEDGEWOOD MARINE & RECREATION

Amy Brohm Joins County Tourism Team - Great Plans For Future Promotion Lay Ahead

Almost two years ago the County of Haliburton decided not to renew its contract with the Chamber of Commerce to provide tourism marketing services. This left the Chamber free to develop the interests of all of its members, while the County felt it was time to hire its own marketing and economic development staff (which is standard practice for most Ontario jurisdictions.)

To implement the new strategy the County hired Robert Smith as its Director of Economic Development, while Ann Lavery assumed full responsibility for the Visitor Information Office on Highway 35. Other information satellite offices were also established, and the general work of tourism promotion, with booths at Cottage Shows and Tourism brochures proceeded as normal.

Bob Smith also assumed responsibility for Tourism Marketing, but it soon became apparent that he needed someone devoted exclusively to that very important job. After all, Tourism is still the driving force behind the County's economy and marketing techniques and strategies are becoming more competitive and complex every season. So this fall Bob Smith has announced the appointment of Amy Brohm as the County's Tourism and Marketing Coordinator, while Ann Lavery remains as Tourism Facilitator. "We have an exciting and enthusiastic team," Bob Smith commented, and added "Amy's appointment allows me to concentrate more on economic development, which is also an essential part of our future."

For her part, Amy is charging full steam ahead organizing the County's participation already in trade shows, starting with the Fall Cottage Life show, and preparing for the new Destination Guide, and the big spring trade shows. Amy's no stranger to the County, having worked on the Data Base for the 911 project, as well as working with Community Care. "This is an exciting challenge for me and for the County as a whole, to keep pace with other jurisdictions and to get the word out about this great place," says Amy. She'll be working closely with the Haliburton Tourism Coalition, bringing together groups as diverse as Trails and Tours, the Snowmobilers, ATVers, Nordic Trails, the Arts Council as well

of course with the hospitality industry itself. "My main responsibility will be to create working links between our Tourism service providers here and the Ontario Tourism Marketing Partnership, and between the County and the Ministry of Tourism," says Amy. She's also convinced that the County's tourism business in the 'shoulder seasons', i.e. November, April and May, can be significantly boosted.

If you have any questions about the County's approach to Tourism Marketing, please feel free to contact Amy at the Information Centre at 705 286-1777, or 1 800 461-7677, or drop in at the Centre at 12340 Highway 35 in Minden.



Bob, Ann & Amy - The County Team!!

About Amy Brohm

Amy Brohm has a varied and eclectic background that somehow seems perfectly suited to her new job. She was brought up in Niagara Falls, Ontario's tourist mecca, and went on to study Arts Administration at the University of Toronto. When she graduated she went to work for the Canadian Centre for Philanthropy, now called Imagine Canada, which gave her a lot of experience in how corporations, volunteers and governments can work together.

During this time Amy and some of her friends became interested in welding, of all things, and took a course at Danforth Tech in Toronto. This led to her enrolling in the first Fleming College course in Blacksmithing, held in 1999. And not only did she learn a great skill, she met and married Haliburton's Caspar Brohm, and soon afterwards became Curator/Director of the Rails End Gallery.

Amy took some time off after their son Lane was born, and then went to work for Community Care in Marketing and Project Management. She also had a brief stint organizing the data bases for the 911 project at the County before she returned to Community Care to work in Marketing and government liaison work with Roxanne Casey and Donna MacDonald.

"I'm delighted to be able to work with all our tourism providers and the County and Province - it's fascinating work, and I'm looking forward to some concrete accomplishments in the year ahead," says Amy.

We are having a
10% Off Sale
on all Christmas
items on December 22nd,
23rd, and 24th.

*Merry
Christmas*

from Debbie, Ira & Joanne

A Little Bit of Everything

Did you forget your batteries for toys from Santa, transparent tape to wrap your last minute gifts, or napkins or plates? Do you have enough stocking stuffers, or a gift for a surprise visitor? We have just about everything you may need. Remember to check with us first, and receive 10% Off your Christmas purchases on December 22nd, 23rd, and 24th.

Our Christmas hours will be: Monday to Friday: 9 am to 5:30 pm, Saturday from 9 am to 5 pm and Sunday from 10 am to 3 pm. We will be closed on December 25th, 26th, and 27th, and 31st, and January 1st.

Thank-you for your encouragement and support in 2006.
As a reminder, please shop early so that you won't be disappointed.

Beside IGA & Home Hardware in Minden (705) 286-3741



DUMB CRIMINALS

ME, MYSELF, AND I: After skipping out on a drunk driving charge eight years ago, William Peterson filed a death certificate on himself to avoid the resulting arrest warrant. But the ruse was discovered when Peterson, living under the name William Arksey, now 53, was jailed on a forgery rap in Putnam County, Penn., and a fingerprint check revealed his real identity. "You were just planning to make yourself dead?" asked Judge Robert E. Miller after Arksey pleaded guilty to forgery. "I was a different person then," Arksey replied. "No pun intended." Still incredulous, the judge pondered in court, "So had he not been arrested, he could have, excuse me, passed himself off as dead for the rest of his life?"

FIXED INTEREST: Paul Swanson, 71, was fed up with errors on his account at Wells Fargo Bank in Corvallis, Ore. He allegedly demanded that a loan officer fix the errors — at gunpoint. Police say they arrived to find Swanson pointing a .357 magnum revolver at the employee, but "convinced" him to drop the weapon. Swanson had "demanded that [the victim] write out a confession regarding the nefarious activity" on his account, says District Attorney Michael Wynhausen. Swanson faces coercion and weapons charges, punishable by up to 5 years in prison. (Corvallis Gazette-Times) ...And as a concession, the bank promises to have the errors fixed by then.

Weird Homes

Pictures of some of the world's more bizarre homes



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New Snowmobile Association Board – New Season ... Now All We Need Is More Snow!!!

Last spring Andy Chvedukas, then President of the Haliburton County Snowmobile Association (HCSA), issued a serious warning: "it's essential that our membership and the entire Haliburton community understand that if the HCSA doesn't get more support, more volunteers, and more new board members, the Association will have to fold. And if it folds, the trail system will go with it, and in effect serious snowmobiling will be over in Haliburton County."

The HCSA is one of the oldest and most successful Sledgers Clubs anywhere, and the thought that it might fold its tent and go silently into the night set off alarm bells all over the County. The snowmobiling industry is worth over \$10 million dollars per year to the local economy and it seemed inconceivable that it could simply disappear. The HCSA was celebrating its 35th anniversary and over the years had managed to survive a couple of recessions, occasional sharp increases in membership fees, and a lot of winters with less than perfect weather conditions. Andy Chvedukas had been Club President for a number of years as well and was widely respected by the membership: suffice to say the community realized he wasn't crying wolf.

And now, on the eve of a new snowmobiling season, the good news is that the HCSA has a new Board, a fresh slate of directors, and a charged up membership ready to take on the challenge. "It's just great to see the dedication of our volunteers," says Andy, now Past President and 1st Vice President, "and we're just so happy to see how many people have stepped up and made sure this Club is going to survive, with bells on."

Earl Cox, co-owner of Lakeside Golf Club in West Guilford, is now 2nd Vice President and Trails Co-ordinator: "The summer tornados really hurt our trails, to say the least, and to see how our volunteers, property owners, even the ATV Club came out to lend us a hand was just amazing. We had over 50 volunteers at one

time taking charge of the trail brushing in preparation for this season."

Besides Earl and Andy, the new Board consists of Doug Mahood, President, Marj Mahood, Treasurer, Chuck Sneath, Equipment Manager, Brad Willing, Russ Hemphill, Tom Nicholson, Jeannie Zahn and Peter Zahn. "We're just delighted that we've managed to overcome the problems of the past few years," says Andy, "and we can't wait for the new season to get underway."

Earl adds, "Of course, all we need now is for Mother Nature to co-operate, just a little. We need some really cold weather to freeze up the ponds and creeks and water holes, and then we need the snow. And once that happens, our members are going to see much improved trails, with more frequent and efficient grooming all season long."

The enthusiasm of the HCSA's directors is a truly welcome sign for the County's sledgers and business community. Their determination to succeed and the volunteer effort will surely make this

year's season one to remember. Are you listening up there, Mother N.? Cold weather please – and some snow, preferably for Christmas, would be very nice.

For further information on the HCSA please check out their website at www.hcsa.on.ca, or call 705 457-4263.



Earl & Andy



'Tis The Season

Merry Christmas
from everyone
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Urban Legends

The Immaculate Conception

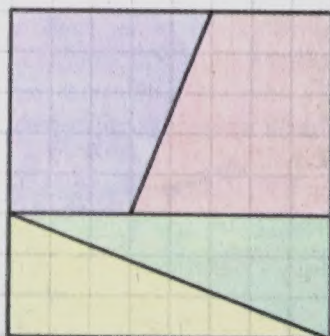
Claim: The term "Immaculate Conception" refers to the conception of Jesus by the Virgin Mary.

Status: False.

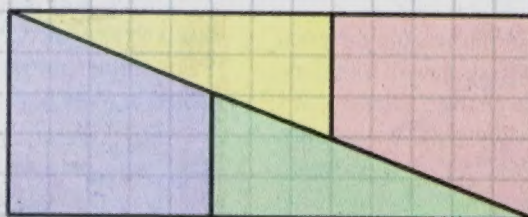
Origins: The term "immaculate conception" is often used generally to denote the conception of a child by a woman who has not engaged in sexual intercourse, and specifically to the conception of Jesus by the Virgin Mary. Both usages are incorrect.

"Immaculate Conception" refers to neither the conception of Jesus nor to a virgin birth. It is a specific doctrine of Roman Catholicism decreeing that the Virgin Mary was preserved free from original sin by divine grace from the moment of her conception. Although this dogma had been argued since the twelfth century, it was not made official until 1854 by Pope Pius IX. Since then December 8 has been observed as a Roman Catholic feast in commemoration of the Immaculate Conception.

Brain Teaser For December



$8 \times 8 = 64$



$5 \times 13 = 65$

See if you can figure this one out during your Christmas Holidays.

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I wish that you could hold me Mum,
As I lie here and die.
I wish that I could say, "I love you, Mum!"
So I love you and good-bye.

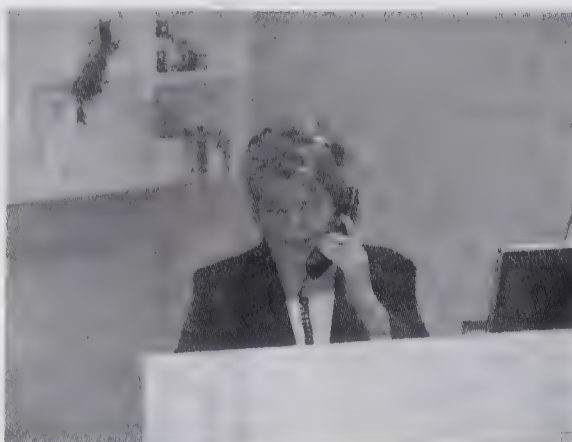
~ Pg. 11 ~

The Business Centre and New REZ

Haliburton On The Move and Growing

Susan Norcross established Haliburton's The Business Centre just a year and a half ago, providing comprehensive business services and professional office space. Since then she's provided administrative services to Lake and Cottager Associations, produced newsletters for various associations and businesses, and has been a major volunteer and administrator for Haliburton's BIA (including co-ordinating this year's wildly successful Santa Claus Parade).

And now, in a major expansion, she's moved the Business Centre down the street where she occupies almost 3000 square feet of available office and meeting space in the Condominium Building that used to house the Haliburton Family Medical Clinic. Since the doctors moved out last year, the buildings owners, headed by Peter Curry, have undertaken a major renovation to the bottom and top floors. Susan's Business Centre occupies a portion of the ground floor, with Curves on the other side. The Business Centre offers six to eight (depending on the configuration) modern, attractive and convenient office spaces with telephone and



Susan at her desk

High Speed Internet services. She continues to provide secretarial and administrative services for the tenants, when required, which includes among others Lawyer Dennis Starzynski.

The top floor has been completely transformed into a spacious and comfortable apartment with eight completely private and secure bedrooms, which are for rent at prices ranging from \$300 to \$500 per month. The apartment includes full kitchen, lounge, and bathroom facilities. All the bedrooms have keyed entry and include furnishings, heating, of

course, as well as telephone and High Speed Internet service. A four-month minimum stay is required, and Fleming College students and seasonal workers are welcomed.

Susan acts as Property Manager for both ventures, and of course continues to provide a high level of business services. "My administrative background allows me to be of great use to many organizations, both volunteer and private sector. I've been a Board secretary and administrator, for example, for volunteer organizations, taking minutes, organizing meetings, and helping with all those tasks that over-worked volunteers often don't have time for.

"In addition, I help to produce flyers and newsletters for different organizations, including many real estate clients. And of course, we provide word processing services, on-line document printing, we have a great photo-fax centre with mailing and packaging services, laminating, cd image and document scanning- you name it. And we also sell printer and fax cartridges at prices that match the big-city stores."

New Rez cont'd... pg. 15...

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bright and your new year brings
you everything you've dreamed of!

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Charlie

Ethel

Roger

Lynn

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Rob

Graham

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& Happy Holiday Season
from everyone at



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One and All**

From

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A man's got to do what a
man's got to do. A woman
must do what he can't.

If you can't be a good example —
then you'll just have to be a hor-
rible warning.



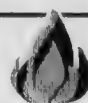
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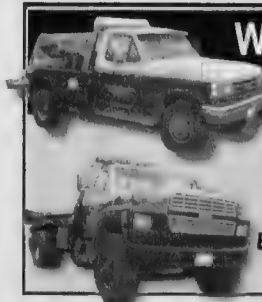
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The Business Centre & Rez cont'd...

...from pg. 12

Susan also provides efficient and cheerful reception and business services for her office clients, when needed. The Business Centre also has fully serviced meeting rooms available.

As for the apartment upstairs, now known affectionately as The Rez, Susan foresees a full house very shortly. "With the housing shortage we have in Haliburton, particularly for students, I know The Rez will be a very popular place, year round. And the location couldn't be any more central."

Both the Business Centre, with its offices and Susan's business services, and The Rez upstairs show how a little imagination can produce highly functional, and attractive office and living space in an existing building. The middle floor houses the Rexall Pharmacy, of course, which will shortly be moving across the street. No plans have been announced for that space as yet, but as one of Haliburton's most attractive

main street retail sites, you can be sure it won't be empty for long.

You can reach the Business Centre, The Rez, and Susan Norcross at 705 457-1050. The Business Centre itself is entered from York Street, and ample parking is available.



pictured is the new Mainstreet Rez shared living area. At right is Susan.



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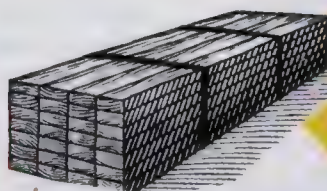
Everyone at Minden Home Hardware Wishes YOU...

all the best this holiday season and a
healthy and prosperous new year!

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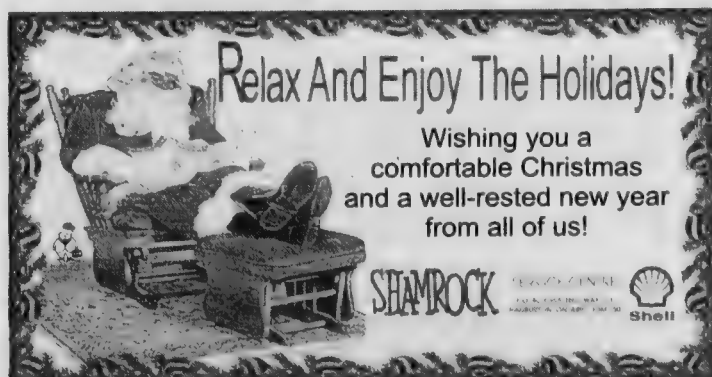
All I Need to Know about Life I Learned From a Snowman

It's okay if you're a little bottom heavy.
 Hold your ground, even when the heat is on.
 Wearing white is always appropriate.
 Winter is the best of the four seasons.
 It takes a few extra rolls to make a good midsection.
 There's nothing better than a foul weather friend.
 The key to life is to be a jolly, happy soul.
 It's not the size of the carrot, but the placement that counts.
 We're all made up of mostly water.
 You know you've made it when they write a song about you.
 Accessorize! Accessorize! Accessorize!
 Avoid yellow snow. Don't get too much sun.
 It's embarrassing when you can't look down and see your feet.
 It's fun to hang out in your front yard.
 Always put your best foot forward.
 There's no stopping you once you're on a roll.

Just Follow The Plow...

One day it was snowing heavily and blowing to the point that visibility was almost zero when Lena got off work. She made her way to her car and wondered how she was going to make it home. She sat in her car while it warmed up and thought about her situation. She remembered Ole's advice that if she got caught in a blizzard, she should wait for a snow plow to come by and follow it. That way she would not get stuck in a snow drift. This made Lena feel much better and sure enough in a little while, a snow plow went by, and she started to follow it.

As she followed the snow plow, she was feeling very smug as they continued, and she was not having any problem with the blizzard conditions. After quite sometime had passed, she was somewhat surprised when the snow plow stopped and the driver got out and came back to her car and signaled her to roll down her window. The snow plow driver wanted to know if she was all right, as she had been following him for a long time. She said that she was fine and told him of Ole's advice to follow a snow plow when caught in a blizzard. The driver replied that it was OK with him, and she could continue if she wanted...but he was done with the Wal-Mart parking lot and was going over to Kmart next.



Win a \$25

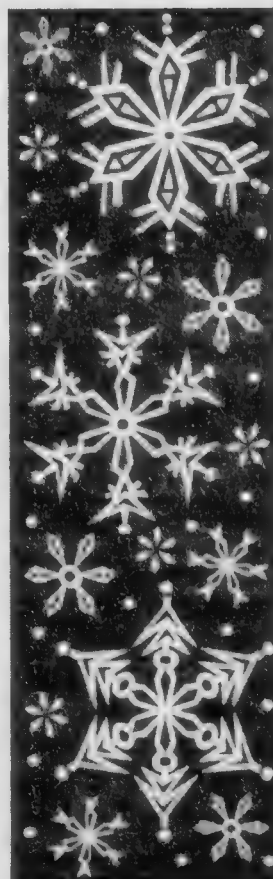
GIFT CARD from

MINDEN HOME HARDWARE

How good are your eyes??

Look on the opposite page at Minden Home Hardware's Christmas greeting. There is something "Fishy" happening in the staff pictures! Hint - it's nothing to do with the Christmas tree. Nope, it has to do with the staff. Can you pick it out? If you can, send us your answer on a sheet of paper. We will put all correct answers in our draw basket and pull one winner who will receive a Free \$25 gift card to spend at Minden Home Hardware.

Mail, Email, or Fax your answers to The Communicator. Our address is on Page 4 of this issue. Good Luck!
 Deadline for entries is Dec 29th.



WARM THOUGHTS AT CHRISTMAS.

Hope your Christmas is filled with warm thoughts and glad tidings. May those you love join you in celebrating this special time

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There Really Is A Santa Claus!!!



Santa has not always appeared the way we think of him today. The first well-known gift-giver was a true person—St. Nicholas. He lived in Myra (today we know it as Turkey) in about 300A.D. Born an only child of a wealthy family, he was orphaned at an early age when both parents died of the plague. He grew up in a monastery and at the age of 17 became one of the youngest

priests ever. Many stories are told of his generosity as he gave his wealth away in the form of gifts to those in need, especially children. Perhaps the most famous story of all tells how he helped three unfortunate young sisters who all had suitors but had no dowries because their father, a poor nobleman, could not raise the money. So they could not marry.

Now the bishop Nicholas was a shy man and did not like to give money directly, so he thought of a way to give it anonymously. When the first daughter was ready to marry, the good bishop tossed a bag of gold into the house at night. Later, when the second daughter prepared to marry, she too received a mysterious bag of gold. When the third daughter prepared to marry, the poor nobleman was

determined to find out who had been so generous. So he kept watch and saw the bishop drop another bag of gold into the house. It has been said that Saint Nicholas climbed on the roof and dropped the third bag of gold down the chimney where it landed in a stocking hung to dry, giving us a reason to hang up Christmas stockings today. When the father saw what had happened, Nicholas begged him to keep the secret, but, of course, the news got out. From then on, whenever anyone received an unexpected gift, they thanked Nicholas.

Some years later Nicholas became a bishop—hence the bishop's hat or mitre, long flowing gown, white beard and red cape. After his death he was elevated to sainthood. Eventually the Catholic Church started celebrating Christmas and St. Nicholas was incorporated into the season.

When the Reformation took place, the new Protestants no longer desired St. Nicholas as their gift-giver as he was too closely tied to the Catholic Church. Therefore, each country or region developed their own gift-giver. In France he was known as Pere Noel. In England he was Father Christmas (always depicted with sprigs of holly, ivy or mistletoe). Germany knew him as Weihnachtsmann (Christmas man). When the communists took over in Russia and outlawed Christianity, the Russians began to call him Grandfather Frost, who wore blue instead of the traditional red. To the Dutch, he was Sinterklaas (which eventually was mispronounced in America and became Santa Claus). These Santas were arrayed in every color of the rainbow—sometimes even in black. But they all had long white beards and carried gifts for the children.

The Santa we know today had his beginnings in 1823 with Clement C. Moore's "A Visit from St. Nicholas" in which he described St. Nicholas as "chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf".

In 1822 Saint Nicholas' American transformation was given a more definitive description by a professor named Doctor Clement Clarke Moore. Moore, the father of several children, presented his family with a Christmas first: the famous poem, A Visit From Saint Nicholas, first published in 1823. (This poem today is The Night Before Christmas). The poem quickly became popular around the United States. Unlike the

Santa cont'd... pg. 19...

WE'RE LIFTING OUR VOICES

To our friends and neighbours, we'd like to say "Thank You" for all your support this year!

Merry Christmas and a very happy New Year

from Kumo and Staff at

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Santa Claus Cont'd...

... from pg. 18

European Saint Nicholas who was feared by naughty children, Clement Moore inadvertently Americanized the Old World Saint Nicholas, turning him into "jolly Saint Nick, a plump, happy-go-lucky elf with a sleigh full of toys and eight flying reindeer.

Through the years, many publishers have offered Moore's poem as an illustrated book for children. The first one was published in 1848 by Henry M. Onderdonk, a New York printer and bookseller, and a friend of Clement Moore. C. Boyd did eight wood

engravings depicting sleeping children, stockings hanging, the Christmas elf driving his miniature team through streets and over rooftops of a quaint old-fashioned Dutch New York, and other familiar scenes to every illustrated edition since. These were put together in an eight-page pamphlet prepared as "a present for good little boys and girls." Only two know copies of that paperback publication have survived.

In 1860 Thomas Nast immortalized Santa Claus with an illustration for Harper's Weekly. The Gregory Company of New York contacted

him with an offer to do the illustrations for a book of Christmas poems, including Clement Moore's. Acquiring a copy, Nast read it repeatedly, making mental sketches of the character. He wanted a warm, jolly old elf. The first Santa Claus appeared as a small part of a large illustration titled "A Christmas Furlough" in the December 26, 1863 issue and each Christmas following, Nast set aside his regular news and political coverage to a Santa Claus drawing. He provided twenty-three years of Santa Claus until the paper changed from a leading newsweekly into a magazine for late nineteenth-century homemakers.

Finally, from 1931 to 1964, Haddon Sundblom created a new Santa each Christmas for Coca-Cola advertisements that appeared worldwide on the back covers of Post and National Geographic magazines. This is the Santa we know and love today with a red suit trimmed with white fur, leather boots and belt, long white beard and a pack of toys slung onto his back.

HARPER'S WEEKLY
JOURNAL OF CIVILIZATION



Redstone River Luge Open House – Everyone Welcome To Check Out Natural Track Luge Demonstrations December 30th.

Got any plans for December 30th? Why not head out to the local luge track from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. for the club's Open House/ Fun Day.

It's a great opportunity to check out the track, meet some lugers and watch natural track luge demonstrations. A 15% discount is being offered on all annual memberships purchased at this event. If you have anymore questions please give them a call.

This event is weather dependant so we recommend calling ahead to confirm. Folks are also welcome to call for more information. The phone numbers is (705) 754-1873 and ask for Robert or Lesley.

There are some exciting events being planned for this year, so watch in The Communicator for details.



**A JOYOUS
HOLIDAY SEASON
and A Happy
2007 to
All!!**



MY SIZE

LADIES CLOTHING SIZES 6-28

THANKS FOR THE GREAT YEAR!

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MOCCASINS - PURSES - SCARVES
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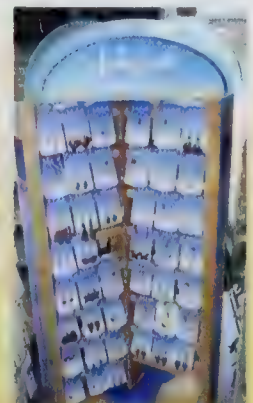


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DOWNTOWN HALIBURTON

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Point in Time

Centre for Children, Youth and Parents

Family Services Changes Name to 'Point In Time'

Changing names is very often a tricky proposition, especially for well-established organizations. People become familiar with the name, and what it stands for, and if you change the name of your organization your clientele may be confused. But what happens when you think that your clients and potential clients are a bit confused with the name you presently have? At that point maybe a name change is the best solution. Such was the case recently with Family Services, which changed names to become Point in Time, Centre for Children, Youth and Parents.

Barb Fraser is the Manager of Programs and Services for Point in Time, as she was with Family Services. She has held the post since 1997 when Family Services was amalgamated to incorporate a wide range of children's services. Barb outlines the reasoning behind the name change to Point in Time. "Last Winter we did a major strategic planning process and during that time we felt a need to explain better to the public who we are, and what we have to offer. One of the issues that came up repeatedly over the years has to do with some confusion about our name. For instance, some people thought that Family Services was a child welfare agency like a children's aid society (C.A.S.), because in many communities the C.A.S. is called Family and Child Services. As well, some people would think that we were only a family counseling agency, and we really have a much broader range of services. The idea behind the new name Point in Time comes from the point in time when children, youths, or parents require the services of caring professionals."

It took a small working group consisting of staff, one board member, and Mike Jaycock, a marketing expert, to come up with the name and logo. "Mike was instrumental in moving this along in the area of marketing and design," says Barb Fraser. The change in name is only a part of the changes taking place with what is now Point in Time. "Along with the name change," Barb points out, "we are moving forward with a communications strategy which includes a new website, a new brochure, and a new look."

There are some personnel changes as well. Fay Martin has decided to step down as Executive director after 10 years of service. She will be replaced by Marg Cox.

As to the future, Barb says, "I hope people will have a better understanding of what we have to offer. We want to reach out to the community to let people know who to call when they need help with their personal and family problems. The new name will help move that forward because it's a better reflection of the breadth of services we have to offer."

Some of those services include: Family support for Pre-schoolers; Children with Special Needs; Parent Support; Child and Youth Crisis Intervention; Counseling and Therapy; Respite Services; Recreational Services; Youth Outreach (for youths involved with the law); and Parenting and Public Education.

For a more comprehensive explanation of the Point in Time services keep an

eye out for the new brochure and web site, both due in the new year. You will be able to access the web site at www.pointintime.ca. In the meantime you can call 286-2191 for the Minden office, or 457-5345 in Haliburton.



Some of the staff in front of the new Point in Time Sign L to R Lisa Hamilton, Kim Ross, Kelly Harrison, Barb Fraser, Loran Upton, Michelle Wolf-Miscio, Adele Espina



Yuletide Greetings

May the beauty of the holidays shine throughout the season for your and yours.

Merry Christmas!

Janet, Tony and Shirley

Head Inn

286-2585

HAIRSTYLING

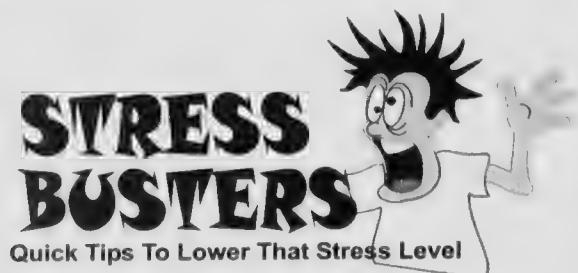
FAMILY SALON SERVICES



Christmas Thanks

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Diversify Social Contacts

According to a study at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, the more varied a person's social network (family, friends, coworkers, community activities, etc.), the more able the person is to resist a cold virus. In fact, those with six or more different types of relationship got sick 25 percent less often than those with three or fewer.

Prenatal Class Starts In New Year

Expecting a baby, but not sure what to expect during pregnancy and birth?

A new series of Prenatal Classes is starting in January 2007 in Haliburton County to help expectant parents prepare for the birth of their new baby. The FREE program is being offered by the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit.

The classes run on Wednesdays on the following dates: January 10, 17, 24 and 31. It will be offered at the Ontario Early Years Centre in the Halco Plaza in Haliburton Village. Register before January 10 by calling the Health Unit at (705) 457-1391.

SALUTING THEIR SUPPORT

Health for Life Sends Big 'Thank You' To All Those Who Donate Their Time To Healthy Causes

There are more than 120 reasons to give pause for applause in Haliburton County.

That's the number of individuals and organizations that Health for Life is recognizing for their contributions to making the community a healthier place for everyone. In total, these community partners have contributed hundreds of hours of time, and in one particular case, funding, over the past year to assist Health for Life in various healthy eating, physical activity and workplace health initiatives.

"Saying thank you is an understatement because the work of our partners and volunteers is vital to the success of Health for Life in Haliburton," says Sue Shikaze, a Health Promoter with Health for Life.

She notes volunteers contribute to many local programs supported by Health for Life, including school nourishment programs, the Good Food Box, active transportation planning, cycling initiatives, and workplace wellness programs.

Health for Life is giving special recognition to the Haliburton County Development Corporation (HCDC). The HCDC, through the Community Economic Development Committee and the Eastern Ontario Development Program, has provided financial support to several Health for Life programs over the past year. These include trails development, a local cycling coalition, after-school recreation programs and the community-based Food Net that works towards improving food security.

"HCDC has been a key supporter of our work," says Shikaze. "We greatly appreciate its vision to see that the health and quality of life of all residents contribute to the economic vitality of our community."

Formed in Haliburton County in 1998, Health for Life is a community partnership that encourages and supports people to make healthy lifestyle choices so they enjoy their health for life. Research shows that people who choose healthy lifestyles feel better, have more energy, and reduce their risk of getting heart disease, diabetes, stroke, osteoporosis, and some types of cancer.

If high heels were so wonderful, men would
still be wearing them.

The Storeroom Natural Foods

Established 1977



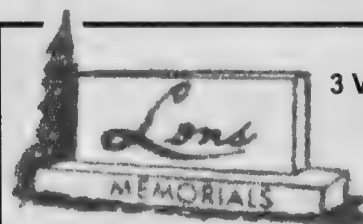
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Scampering Along the White Trail

with Marci Mandel

**YOU
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One of the exciting things about life is you never know what is going to happen.

Yesterday morning I took my puppy, Amik, for a walk and it didn't take long to come upon an adventure. We just got started down the trail when we began to see (and smell, for Amik) animal tracks crisscrossing all over. First we spotted a half dozen coyote tracks converging and dividing, and then we noticed a few sets of deer tracks zigging and zagging. What drama! Right on this spot, a challenge had taken place between aggressive predators whose survival depended on the ability to chase down dinner and skittish prey whose survival depended on the ability to run away fast.



We wandered around checking out all the scenarios and what we found, right by where I have a seat overlooking the lake, were four places where the deer had bedded down as well as a lot of droppings. Using my imagination, I surmised that one of the coyotes had tripped on a twig that was hidden under the light bed of snow and the deer, frightened to death by the sound, jumped up and ran for sweet life.

What fun an imagination is! Think of all the stories I could write with just that bit of information. Whose point of view do I tell it from, the deer's or the coyote's and which deer or coyote? The young or the alpha? And what if...? Isn't it wonderful to be a human being and be able to create any world you like?

Fascinating, isn't it, how December brings out the creative spirit? It's like the heavy darkness pulls down all the useless bits we've accumulated over the year and invites us to let them go. What is left is the truth of who we are. At this time of year artistry of all kinds and shapes comes to the fore and life abounds in spite of the cold and isolation.

It's as if the spirit of the season lifts a veil and we can see that we are creators of our lives and not merely puppets of our genetics. Instead of hibernating, we humans grasp life by the horns, put up lights, invite friends over for dinner, and play on the ice and snow. Kindness is shared, songs are sung, differences

between cultures are blurred, and for a short time, *Peace On Earth* really does exist.

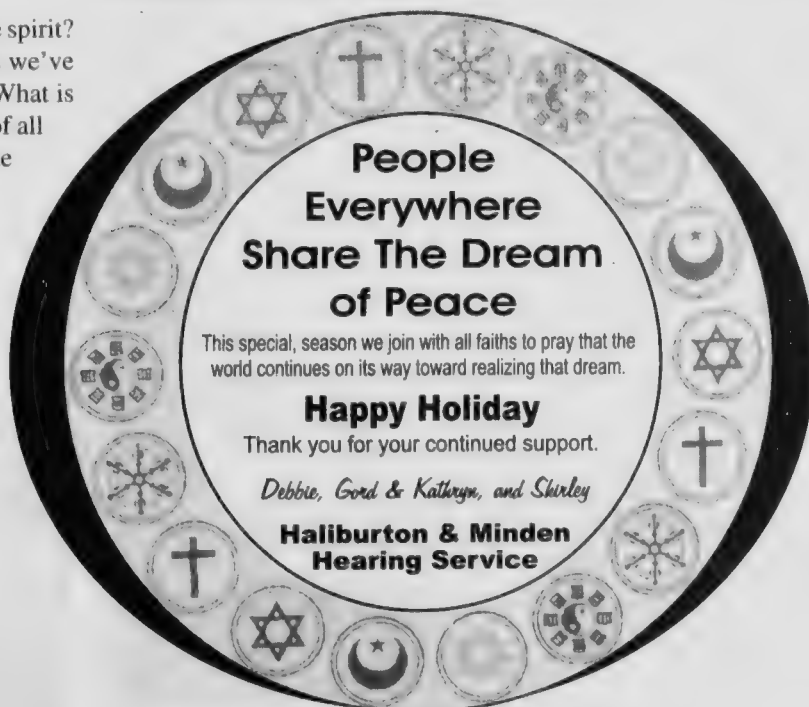
We're not looking for meaning in life; we're searching for the experience of feeling fully alive, said Joseph Campbell. At this time of year, feeling fully alive isn't about having an adrenaline rush from some extreme event. The thrill of being alive is about connecting with others and contributing to their happiness. Ron MacLean of *Hockey Night In Canada* said: *we are not here to see through each other, we are here to see each other through*. This

may not sound exciting but when you see an elderly woman's face light up because you took the time to visit, or you start a charity drive to gather boots for needy kids, or you help a loaded-down mother get her stroller through the door, your heart smiles and pumps a freshness through your body that reminds you you are not just a person but a fully living human being, a human being who can choose to create

goodness, and a human being who will not sell out their humanity for an impermanent toy or flash of celebrity.

We start out as animals, dependent on our family and our pack for our well being. But there comes a time when we must ascend to our human nature and make it our purpose to imagine and create a flourishing world. Let's use the excitement of this holiday season to ignite our creativity and support each other so we can keep it going for all time.

With our imagination, determination and sense of goodness, you never know what will happen.



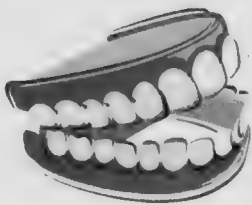
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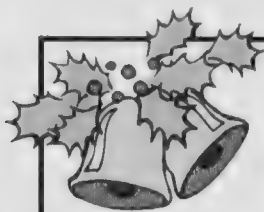
Director of Dental Programs Urges For New Dental Health Care System

Dr. Bill Ryding, Director of Dental Programs provided a presentation entitled "The Dental Health Care System-Inequality and inequity" during a recent Health Unit meeting.

In his presentation, Dr. Ryding outlined how dental care in Canada is excluded from the universal health care system and, as a result, is either financed through people's personal resources or private insurance plans. As a result, many disadvantaged people have difficulty accessing dental care. While many dentists provide pro-bono work, Dr. Ryding said that fees provided in the publicly funded programs barely cover the overhead costs of providing care. Because of the inequity of the health care system, Dr. Ryding says many people are suffering from poor dental health, which, studies have shown, contribute to poor over all health.

Among Canadians aged 18 years of age and older, 13 per cent are unable to chew a complete range of foods and 10 per cent have problems with speech. As well, poor oral health makes it difficult for an individual to obtain and retain employment.

In order to end the inequality and inequity that exist in the dental health care system, Dr. Ryding urged that a new perspective on oral care and prevention be adopted by politicians and members of the dental profession and that the dental health care system be included in the universal health care system.



Warm Wishes and Gratitude

As we get ready to ring in the holidays, we wish to take this time to extend our thanks to everyone who has supported us this year in any way. Your help has been appreciated and not forgotten. We wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a prosperous and healthy New Year!

From Donna MacDonald, Sherry Mulholland, Ida Schultz, Sheri Deterling, Judy Cumming, Roxanne Casey, and all the Volunteers.

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Holiday Alcohol Defence Strategies

If you can get through all the technical medical terms that follow, you might just find yourself some good advice if you are a drinker over the holidays.

Alcohol is metabolized by the liver in a two-step process. Alcohol (ethanol) is first metabolized into acetaldehyde. Acetaldehyde is then

metabolized into acetate, commonly called acetic acid (or vinegar).

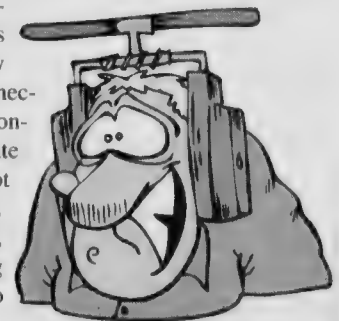
Unfortunately, a certain amount of acetaldehyde escapes hepatic metabolism and enters general circulation. Acetaldehyde is a potent nerve irritant and neurotoxin which causes a chemical process called cross-linking.

The body's natural defence mechanism against acetaldehyde (and other aldehydes) is cysteine (an amino acid) and glutathione (a small cysteine-containing peptide). These vital molecules contain a sulfhydryl group (SH), which is chemically active against aldehydes.

Sulfur compounds can also exist in other forms, which aren't necessarily active. In methionine, for example, the sulfur is blocked by a methyl group. Oxidized sulfur compounds (called disulfides) are also inactive against aldehydes. Cystine, the oxidized form of cysteine, contains one disulfide group. Cystine can be reduced back to cysteine by vitamin C. Large supplemental doses of vitamin C maintain the sulfur pool in its reduced sulfhydryl form. This optimizes aldehyde-scavenging conditions in the body.

Sulfhydryl compounds are so effective at detoxifying aldehydes that, in a rat experiment, an LD-90 dose of acetaldehyde (the amount that will normally kill 90% of the animals) did not kill any of the cysteine-pretreated rodents.

This natural defence mechanism can be enhanced with a simple supplementary formula consisting of 200-500 mg of L-cysteine (with 3 or more times as much vitamin C) as an alcohol detoxification remedy, to be taken before drinking alcoholic beverages, and after. For heavy drinkers and for long-term drinking (over many hours), between-drink doses are also necessary. This formula has worked wonders in people who could only tolerate small amounts of alcohol, or could not consume alcohol on successive days. A high-potency B-complex vitamin, which includes the sulfur-containing vitamin thiamine (vitamin B-1) is also quite helpful.



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By George Farrell

What is an artist? One could go on forever about definitions for such a question, but perhaps the questions should really be who is an artist? Similarly for that question, there might be a different answer from each and every one of us. For me an artist is a person who cares deeply about the state of all life, the human condition and environmental conditions, and how they interact with each other, and who through his or her chosen medium delivers to the audience a work that displays the state of his or her concerns in a comprehensive manner. A long definition to be sure, but the life of all artists is complicated, and a definition therefore is also not simple.

Whether or not you agree with the definition, it fits like a glove on the hand of one of the Highland's unique personalities-Michael Fay. Michael cares. He cares specifically about social justice, (a human condition), and the marginalization of disadvantaged minorities.

"I grew up in Cincinnati Ohio, where I attended high school and

Meet Michael Fay: The Teacher – The Advocate - The Author – The Playwright – The Man Who Cares

university," Michael says, by way of introduction. "I did an internship in Chicago, in a black ghetto, and a whole year in a black ghetto in Pittsburgh, working for an organization the equivalent to the Company of Young Canadians. To me it was always evident that there was so much injustice in American cities."

Michael's first taste of injustice occurred when he was still living at home. His mother had health issues, which did not permit her to do some of the chores around the house, and the family hired a

black woman to do the ironing. "Her name was Carrie Wilson," remembers Michael, "and I learned from her that there were two separate worlds. Here I was a white kid from a well to do middle class suburban family with lots of opportunity on the one hand, and she represented another world, the one downtown where blacks were deprived of opportunity-it was virtual apartheid. I couldn't reconcile that with the rhetoric of America being the land of opportunity."

Eventually Michael moved to Toronto as a statement in protest of the war in Vietnam. In Toronto he became



Michael Fay cont'd... pg. 26...

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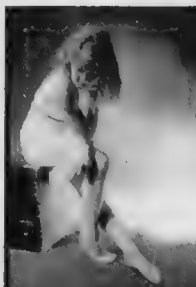
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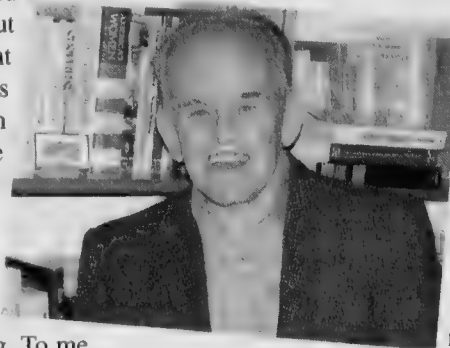
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Michael Fay Cont'd...

... from pg. 25

community organizer at the Woodgreen Community Centre in the Queen and Broadview area. That led to a position with the city of Toronto where he worked on health promotion for marginalized people like street youths, refugees, and immigrants. Michael took early retirement about 5 years ago, but he still works as a consultant for marginalized people who have access problems of all kinds; "people in poverty, with race and cultural issues, and issues of distance (in some areas if you can't afford a car you're stuck). Each part of Canada has its own marginality for various reasons," he explains. "In places like Toronto, since 911, people like Muslims for instance are marginalized. Part of my consultancy is to fight fear-mongering. To me it's important to strive for inclusion of peoples of different races and cultures, people of poverty, persons with a disability-all have social or physical or economic access issues. While I was in Toronto I organized a multi-cultural health centre and I saw doctors from all over the world find work in our health system, but recognizing the contributions of foreign professionals is still a big issue."

Michael Fay met his wife Fay Martin in 1974, "She, like me, is totally committed to social justice. About 9 years ago Fay took a



position to create Family Services for Haliburton County, and in 1997 we bought the house we now live in on Horseshoe Lake Rd. I was still living and working in the city, and commuting, but in 2001, I took early retirement and moved up permanently. Fay has

focused more on youth than I have, but together we have touched the lives of hundreds, maybe thousands of people. I only wish," Michael expands, "that society was more committed to equality and opportunity for everyone."

With that last telling statement we end what can be called Michael's formative years, the years in which he was inadvertently researching for what was to become, as he explains it, his "second side, that of the creative writer." So, to go back to the description of an artist, we have a man who obviously cares about the human condition, and now, as the creative writer slowly emerges, we have his chosen medium. "I don't know why but I always interesting in writing stories. From 1975 to 82 Fay and I lived in Alberta. I was a full time free lance writer for newspapers and magazines and I taught creative writing for Alberta Culture which was like the Ontario Arts Council. I also taught writing to juvenile offenders in a school that was located in the mountains of Alberta, and when I first got there and met these tough kids and announced I was the writing instructor, they thought that I'd said I was the riding instructor," Michael laughs, "but eventually we published a little revue by these juvenile offenders called the Enviro's Revue." There's a pause as he collects his thoughts and remembers. "I studied with W.O. Mitchell who taught me a system of looking inside yourself to find things to write about, and I used that method. I wrote what I knew about. I wrote about our ironing lady Carrie Wilson, and I can still see her as clear as day with a line of white shirts behind her-she told me stories, and I learned from that, and I wrote stories in that mode-stories that I heard, and my own experiences. I wrote about social injustice and anti war stuff, and what transpired when young boys became men." During that period of Michael's life he set up the Alexandra Writing Centre in Calgary. "Twenty five years ago, and it's still going strong." Michael says

Michael Fay Cont'd... pg. 27...



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Michael Fay Cont'd...

... from pg. 26

proudly.

Like all artists, and especially writers it seems, Michael Fay hit a plateau, where things weren't quite right. "I found that writing about my own experiences wasn't really working anymore," he says. "so I started to look into the history of Haliburton County and other histories, and I started thinking of using my own experiences in a historical content, and once I discovered that I became immensely productive." So Michael found the 'hook' to deliver his message in a more comprehensive manner, thus fulfilling another prerequisite in our definition of an artist. The first big project was the award winning play 'Never Such Innocence Again.' "My only experience in the theatre was a play in high school, but that was it," Michael says. "However, my relatives in Ireland, the Fay Brothers, in Dublin, created an amateur theatre group of Irish-born actors around the turn of the century. Up to that point it was strictly British actors and British theatre." Michael was quick to point out "there was an injustice there."

"My driving ambition now is to write about our own reality, and I'm immensely proud to have written two new and original plays 'Never Such Innocence Again,' which I think, if it was performed professionally, could do really well; it has such a great title, and 'A Little Study in Scheming.' This area, the Highlands has never been represented in the theatre before. I'm working on a play now called the 'Last of the Great White Pine.' It's set in 1883. I found the story concept by researching local history and archives, and it's about the year when they finally took down the last white pine. The destruction of the Highlands White Pine forests is one of the great environmental tragedies. It's a conflict and love story, like a Romeo and Juliet, in a setting of the Highlands during the destruction of the forests."

Michael does not stop at his own artistic development. He is after all a teacher, and advocate as well, so he has helped in the formation of a group called the Playwrights Workshop, out of Minden. "There are about ten people who want to create and produce plays. My own play 'Scheming' and Ryan Dawson's play 'The Herald' came directly out of that group. I've always believed that everyone should be able to tell their own stories, so I enjoy bringing people together to write the world as they see it."

Looking forward to what the future might hold, Michael says, "I take my playwriting very seriously, and I appreciate the Haliburton County Development Corporation recognizing my ability, and helping me to work with professionals to improve my range of skills. I'm at the stage now in my career where it would be great to catch a break, and have one of my works produced professionally." Coming to grips with perhaps the hardest single element in what makes a successful artist on the world stage, Michael seeks to define his audience; "The more people who can see the plays, the more people can better understand the injustices that are out there. I once wrote an essay called 'Writing For Social Justice,' and I guess you could say that title pretty well sums up my career."

Whether or not Michael Fay has professionals perform his works and finds a world audience is not ultimately the only thing that matters, because above and beyond everything else he is an artist who has written plays about our area. He is our artist, and that's a fact that we should all be proud of.

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In Georgia, it is against the law to slap a man on the back or front.

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In West Virginia, only babies can ride in a baby carriage.

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CRAZY But True Law Suits

A "Wild" Bird She Was...

Rhonda Nichols. She says a wild bird "attacked" her outside a home improvement store in Fairview Heights, Ill., causing head injuries. That's right: OUTSIDE the store. Yet Nichols still held the Lowe's store responsible for "allowing" wild birds to fly around free in the air. She never reported the incident to the store, but still sued for "at least" \$100,000 in damages. In January 2006, the case was thrown out of court.

Funding Announced for Haliburton County Community Care

Local MP Barry Devolin, on behalf of the Honourable Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development, today announced \$66,597 in funding for three projects through the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program (NHSP).

One of the new projects is our local Community Care of Haliburton County that received funding in the amount of \$17,955

"Canada's new Government is committed to enhancing the social well-being of seniors in communities by encouraging them to share their skills, wisdom and experience," said Devolin. "Projects, like the ones I've had the pleasure of announcing today, help reduce the risk of social isolation among older adults by promoting their ongoing involvement in the community."

"The staff and volunteers of each of the successful applicants should be commended for their hard work in the communities they serve as this area is a better place because of them," stated Devolin. He also congratulated Donna MacDonald and the people of Community Care of Haliburton County for their leadership and service to improving the quality of life for our seniors."

NHSP provides grants to support a range of community-based projects across Canada that encourage seniors to contribute to their communities through social participation and active living. Projects support broad national objectives and regional priorities.

For more information on the Government of Canada's NHSP, visit their Web site at www.hrsdc.gc.ca.



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Lange On The Law



by **Donald J. Lange**
Barrister & Solicitor

A Child is Born

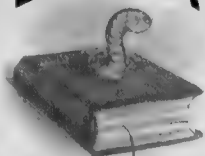
Who is the father? The determination of paternity is a necessary and material step in the establishment of the obligation to support a child. Unlike support and custody, which can change with different circumstances, the issue of paternity is a biological fact and a decision on it is binding on everyone, not just on the child and mother. In family law, the determination of paternity is usually bound up with an application for support. Generally speaking, courts are reluctant to make a finding of non-paternity upon technical grounds, or upon the failure to tender evidence.

A fact situation will illustrate the point. In an application for support, the mother did not appear for a blood test and did not appear in court on her application. The support application was dismissed. Another support application was brought three years later and the alleged father argued that the issue of paternity had been determined in the first application on the basis that the application was dismissed for want of prosecution because of an adverse inference drawn by the court on the failure to appear for a blood test. However, the court held that the second application was not barred because the first application was not heard on its merits. The court noted that it must be careful not to overlook the best interests of the child despite the neglect of the mother in not submitting to a blood test. The only way in which the best interests of the child could properly be determined was for the court to hear evidence on the issue of paternity and then make a determination of the issue.

However, courts may discourage the relitigation of a paternity issue between young unmarried parents. One judge has stated the reason this way: "In many circumstances such as this, when the parties enjoy a relatively pleasant relationship the "possible father" may agree to a paternity finding and later when the relationship has deteriorated or when more personal sexual information is discovered concerning the private matter of sexual intercourse between the mother and other men, i.e., other "possible fathers", the matter is sought to be placed back before the court. This does not seem to be consistent with the best interest of the child . . ."

In the next column, I will be talking about contempt of court.

Learn A



Word

Baleful

\ba (e) l-fel\adj 1: deadly or pernicious in influence *2: foreboding evil: ominous.

"What are you doing here?" someone hissed, and I whirled around to see Sandra giving me a baleful glare.

Donald J. Lange, LL.B., Ph.D. (Cantab.)

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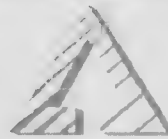
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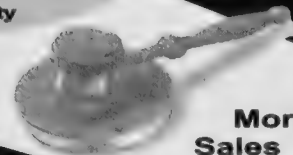
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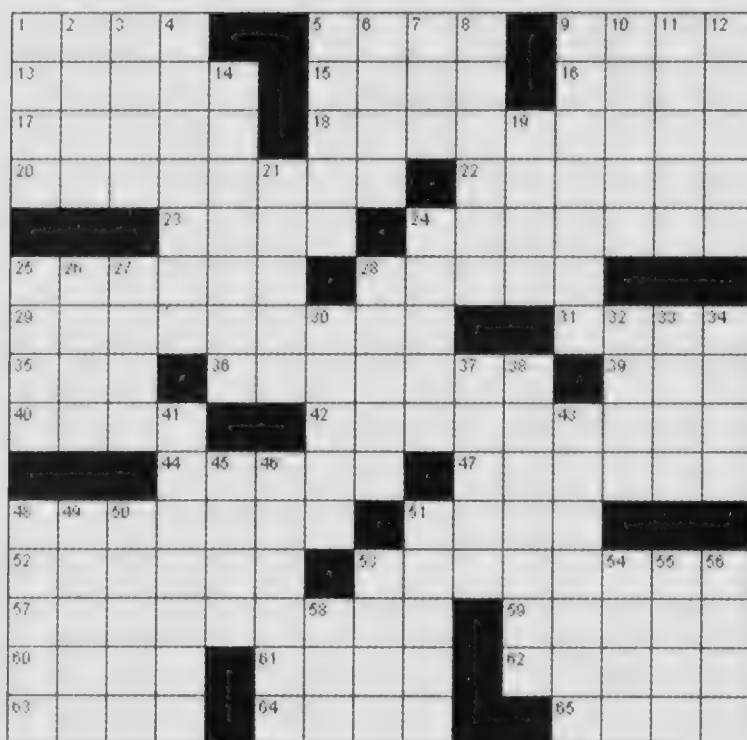
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Across

- 1 Terrible
5 Attired
9 Put aboard
13 Wear away
15 Engage
16 Shah's domain, once
17 Modern posting
18 Together
20 Ornamental garden

- 22 Calorie counter
23 Composer Stravinsky
24 "___ Row" (Steinbeck title)
25 Abut
28 Accepted customs
29 Adviser
31 Actress Sommer
35 Norse underworld queen
36 Lachrymose
39 Cause of inflation?

- 40 River of Flanders
42 Admonished
44 Eject
47 Manage
48 Developed
51 So ___
52 Reimbursed
53 Privateers
57 At first
59 "Believe it ___!"
60 Cinematic citizen
61 Penury
62 Zeus turned her to stone
63 Pub offerings
64 Terrible time
65 City near Provo

Down

- 1 Hard to fathom
2 1963 Shirley MacLaine role
3 Surf sound
4 Issue
5 Cricket sound
6 Occupation
7 Bow shape
8 Cedar of the Himalayas
9 Too much liberty
10 Alpine feature
11 Risk runner
12 Contest submission
14 Thomas Gray, for one

- 19 Largest digit
21 Actress Blakley
24 One of the Ionian Islands
25 Sore
26 Bucks' mates
27 Composer Styne
28 Honorable
30 Spiked
32 Come down
33 Canal to the Baltic
34 Mahler's "Das Lied von der ___"
37 King Arthur's father
38 The French connection?
41 Tells
43 Upper Canada now
45 Seventeen for Caesar
46 Hairsplitter
48 Eleniak of "Baywatch"
49 Corruptible
50 Think so
51 William and Stephen
53 Nile queen, informally
54 "Are you ___ out?"
55 Gown
56 Stern's opposite
58 Tennis player Hoad

**For answer see
pg. 75...**



Merry Christmas

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Donald J. Lange (LL.B., Ph.D (Cantab))
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Please accept without obligation, explicit or implicit, our best wishes for an

environmentally conscious, socially responsible, politically correct, low stress, non-addictive, gender neutral, celebration of the winter solstice holiday, practiced within the most enjoyable traditions of the religious persuasion or secular practice of your choice, with respect for the religious/secular persuasions and/or traditions of others, or their choice not to practice religious or secular traditions.

Please also accept, under aforesaid waiver of obligation on your part, our best wishes for a financially successful, personally fulfilling and medically uncomplicated recognition of the onset of this calendar year of the Common Era, but with due respect for the calendars of all cultures or sects, and for the race, creed, colour, age, physical ability, religious faith, choice of computer platform or dietary preference of the wishee.

By accepting this greeting you acknowledge that: This greeting is subject to further clarification or withdrawal at the wishor's discretion.

This greeting is freely transferable provided that no alteration shall be made to the original greeting and that the proprietary rights of the wishor are acknowledged.

This greeting implies no warranty on the part of the wishors to fulfill these wishes, nor any ability of the wishors to do so, merely a beneficent hope on the part of the wishors that they in fact occur.

This greeting may not be enforceable in certain jurisdictions and/or the restrictions herein may not be binding upon certain wishees in certain jurisdictions and is revocable at the sole discretion of the wishors.

This greeting is warranted to perform as reasonably may be expected within the usual application of good tidings, for a period of one year or until the issuance of a subsequent holiday greeting, whichever comes first.

The wishor warrants this greeting only for the limited replacement of this wish or issuance of a new wish at the sole discretion of the wishor.

Any references in this greeting to "the Lord", "Father Christmas", "Our Saviour", or any other festive figures, whether actual or fictitious, dead or alive, shall not imply any endorsement by or from them in respect of this greeting, and all proprietary rights in any referenced third party names and images are hereby acknowledged.

Sincerely,

Dewey, Cheetham, and Howe

How do they know with any degree of certainty that no two snowflakes are alike and is this true?

No...chances are, in fact, that there are lots of duplicates. What the snowologists really mean is that your chance of finding duplicates is virtually zero. It's been calculated that in a volume of snow two feet square by ten inches deep there are roughly one million flakes. Multiply that by the millions of square miles that are covered by snow each year (nearly one fourth of the earth's land surface), and then multiply that by the billions of winters that have occurred since the dawn of time, and it's obvious we're talking unimaginable googols of flakes. Some of these are surely repeats.

On the other hand, a single snow crystal contains perhaps 100 million molecules, which can be arranged in a gigajillion different ways. By contrast, the number of flakes that have ever been photographed in the history of snow research amounts to a few tens of thousands. So it seems pretty safe to say nobody's ever going to get documentary evidence of duplication. Still, it could happen, and what's more, it could happen to you. If you find you have a lot of time on your hands, well - get out and start looking!!



At A Loss For That Special Gift?

SOURCE FOR SPORTS
Gift Cards.
PERFECT!!

(available in all dollar denominations)



Highland Street
Haliburton
457-3933



SHARPLEY
Source
for sports.

SUPERIOR PRODUCTS SUPERIOR SERVICE



MERRY
CHRISTMAS!

Wishing everyone
a very Merry
Christmas and a
Wonderful & Happy
New Year



SHARPLEY
Source
for sports.

from everyone
here at:

Carpentry Pre-Apprenticeship Training

Feb 5th June 22nd 2007

Fleming College - Haliburton Campus

REGISTRATIONS BEING ACCEPTED NOW

Space is limited to 16 Participants

Important Dates: December 4th - January 26th: Registration and Participant Selection
Feb 5th April 27th :In-school Training
April 30th - June 22nd :Work Placement

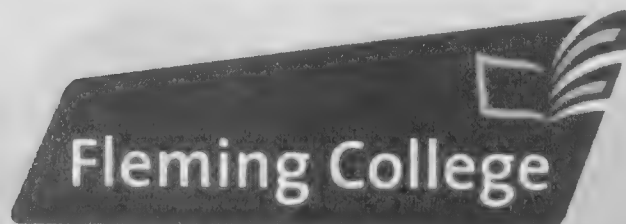
Training Includes: Level 1 Carpentry Apprenticeship Training
Academic Upgrading
Employment Skills Training
Safety Training
8-week Work Placement

Participant Requirements: Minimum of 16 years of age
At least Grade 10 (transcripts required)
Available to start Feb 5th

Costs: All training costs are covered by MTCU
Safety equipment is supplied
Work Placement will be paid

Registration: In Person at the College

Information: Phone: 705-457-1680



Experience Success

This Program is funded by the Government of Ontario

Katherine Clarke: New Lawyer in Town Specializing in Criminal Law

by George Farrell

You might have heard it said before that parts of Haliburton County are very reminiscent of New Brunswick. Katherine (Kathy) Clarke certainly thinks so. In fact that was one of the main reasons she has decided to open an office in Minden, with an aim to permanently moving here. Kathy's decision to work here and open an office is an important piece in the community mosaic, because she is the new lawyer in town specializing in criminal law.

Kathy, born and raised in New Brunswick, is a graduate of Delhousie University where she received her bachelor of law degree upon graduation in 1987. She then moved to Toronto where she articulated with the municipality of Metro Toronto. She did her bar admission course at Osgoode Hall, and became a member of the Law Society of Upper Canada in 1991.

Kathy is married to Douglas Clark, a retired professor of mathematics, who taught at the University of Toronto. There are four children, Martha 24, Katie 22, Robbie 19, and Anna 14. "Douglas manages all my business affairs, and many other things around the house," says Kathy, "and he's still engaged in his own business affairs in the software consulting field."

As to why she has decided to work in the Highlands Kathy replies, "I never felt like I blended into the big city corporate law scene in Toronto, but I wanted to work in Toronto, so I took a position as an associate with Lewis and Associates." While there she worked in immigration law dealing mainly with convention refugees. This refers to persons from various countries who are persecuted in their country for reasons of their race, religion, ethnicity, political opinion or membership in a "particular social group."

At the present time Kathy still maintains a Toronto office because of her family commitments, especially to her 14 year old daughter. "I'm quite excited about my coming involvement with street people, who for various reasons cannot access the current legal system," she says. "Over time I hope to phase out the Toronto business and be up here full time. I had been doing research on small town practices," explains Kathy, and because Minden specifically feels like home we decided to give it a shot up here, and presently we're



looking for suitable accommodations.

Although Kathy Clarke has specialized in Immigration law, she is expanding her criminal practice to include family matters. But what kind of legal services will she be providing for us in Haliburton County you might be wondering? "I see myself in providing a service for people who fall between the cracks of legal aid and an expensive legal system. In other words, although I am not offering a free service, I don't think people should be frightened by the legal system, and I will do my best to make the process

cost-effective, and user friendly for them. Right now, to the best of my knowledge there is nobody else locally providing this type of service." So another niche is to be filled, and Minden and the rest of the county will be richer for it.

At present Katherine Clarke BA, LLB, is spending the first week to ten days of every month at the Minden office at 105 Bobcaygeon Road, in beautiful downtown Minden. She can be reached by phone at (705) 286-5112 or at 1-800-431-3388. The fax number is (705) 286-2539. In Toronto call Katherine at (416) 467-5610, or send a fax to (416) 423-4664.

A Classic Christmas

May the caring spirit of Christmas warm your heart
and bring a smile to your face this holiday season

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

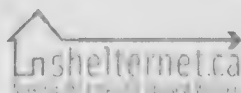


from the
families of
**DAVID A.P.
SHAPIERA**
and staff

(705) 286-2021



Women Welcome Shelters to Haliburton County



b y
Trudy
Pogue

The
women of
Haliburton County
have done it again. Six
months ago they
bombarded the Old Country

House just two weeks after Sylvia Miller had taken it over. On November 28, about seventy women gave Tracey McMullen and her staff at Tracey's Bistro & Grill the opportunity to jump right into the deep end and show their stuff. The previous day was scheduled to be the long-awaited opening night for the new restaurant, but McMullen decided to have one more training day for her staff and then cater exclusively to "Women To Women" the next day.

This was the seventh monthly get-together for the women of Haliburton County. Credit for the idea goes to Haliburton Yoga's Lynda Shadbolt who planned the first meeting in May when about fifty women gathered for a night out. The response has been amazing; there have been monthly meetings since and the email distribution list has grown to include 180 women. November's meeting was organized by Holly Hutchison who also takes care of e-mailing announcements. Holly is now planning an e-mail newsletter that will allow women to share events, news and information. Holly says it will include anything from ballets to fundraisers to blood donor clinics ... "whatever they're involved in."

"One of the main reasons that Lynda formed this group was to network and build information resources," says Hutchison. Depending on the venue, and due to the large number of women attending, it's not always easy to mingle and this is why Holly is

launching the newsletter. To get on the list, please contact Holly at 457-9261.

At the November meeting women came to relax, enjoy each other's company, put names to faces and faces to email addresses, do some networking, and of course, to check out Haliburton's newest restaurant. Tracey and her staff did not disappoint. The women enjoyed the food, service and cozy surroundings. The large main room provided an excellent opportunity for guest speaker Donna Enright to share her passion for Sheltersnet, a national not-for-profit organization that provides support and resources to abused women and the shelters that serve them.

Sheltersnet's mission is to expand access to online help and information for abused women and their children, and to empower individual shelters across Canada through the use of technology. With her commitment to the not-for-profit sector, her experience in social services (her first job was a counsellor in a shelter for abused women) and a real passion for technology, Enright is a perfect fit. She has been with Sheltersnet since the spring of 2003 and has recently taken on the role of Managing Director, bringing its virtual head office to Minden.

"I feel fortunate to be able to work with two issues that I feel passionate about: ending violence against women, and using technology to its best advantage for the benefit of society," says Enright.

Enright was one of the key players in the design and development of the website at www.sheltersnet.ca. You have to surf it to believe it. Available in ten (yes, ten .. dix .. diez .. dez .. 10!) different languages, the site includes a clickable map for locating shelters within Canada, contact information and links to individual shelters, safety planning information (including Internet safety and packing a bag "just in case"), information about abuse and what to expect at a shelter, stories and poems by abused women, a kids' section, a teen section with information on things like identifying a potentially abusive relationship, and information for families, friends and coworkers.

That's only part of it - the public portion of the website. There is another section for shelters only. In this password-protected area, shelter workers can support each other by sharing information and resources. Using simple templates, they can even design and host their own website - free of charge.

In spite of its size and complexity, sheltersnet.ca is quick to load, easy to navigate, and the information is well organized.

Sheltersnet cont'd... pg. 35...

 York Street Internet Café High Speed Internet via your laptop or our PCs Faxing / Photocopying Gourmet Coffee & Tea 457-8902 Winter Hours: Tues - Fri 9:30 am - 5:30 pm Sat - 10 am - 2 pm Closed Sun & Mon www.YorkStreetInternetCafe.ca	 HIGHLANDS Computer SERVICES PC & Laptop Repairs Virus Removal / Prevention New & Used Sales Computer Tutoring 457-8880 28 York Street, Haliburton (opposite the Rail's End Gallery) highlands-computer-services.com
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**Wishing You A
Special Holiday Season!**

May your Christmas be filled with all the
fun & magic the season can bring. Best
wishes for the new year!

VIDEO CITY
Making Technology Work For You

From Doug, Holly,
Sara & Sonia

Shelternet Cont'd...

...from pg. 34



Pictured are Holly, Donna & Tracey

Approximately 250 visitors access the site each day, viewing a total of 3,778 pages (that's about 15 pages per visitor, so the site is well used).

Shelternet is supported by several corporate sponsors including Liz Claiborne, London Fog, Winners, HBC and RBC. Government funders include the Trillium Foundation, Canadian Women's Foundation and others.

"The response from women following the event has been very positive," says Enright. "They seem pleased that Shelternet is moving to Haliburton County, recognized the need, were interested in our funding, and offered to disseminate more information about Shelternet to social agencies in the county."

Enright is no stranger to the not-for-profit sector in Haliburton County. She moved to the area in 2002 and has been on the Board of Directors of the Rails End Gallery since 2003 holding the positions of Treasurer, President and now Past President. She was a member of the original steering committee for the Arts Council~Haliburton Highlands and has been working as an external consultant to SIRCH for the past year, as the Evaluation Coordinator for the School's Cool program.

Enright is excited about the possibilities for local involvement with Shelternet - both in funding and in volunteering. Volunteer opportunities include administrative support, website updates (through an easy-to-use interface), fundraising, Board positions, and event support. For more information about Shelternet, or to inquire about volunteering, please contact Donna at donna@shelternet.ca or (705) 489-4890.

Warmest Wishes

for good health & happiness to you & your family, and a Happy Holiday Season.

Michael Computer Solutions

On site Computers,
Sales, Support, Service

457-3962 miketech@sympatco.ca



Claim: Poinsettia plants are poisonous to humans.

Status: *False.*

Have you ever heard a warning like the following? ...

Don't ever let your kids eat the poinsettias! They are deadly poisonous, and every year several poor unsuspecting little ones are killed at Christmas time by taking just the slightest nibble from a poinsettia plant.



Scary stuff. Luckily for us, it's not true. It's a wonderfully persistent myth though, and it seems to have arisen from a long-ago death of a child's being attributed to the wrong cause. From a fact sheet prepared by Ecke Poinsettia Growers:

The poinsettia poison myth had its origin in 1919 when a two-year-old child of an Army officer stationed in Hawaii died of poisoning, and the cause was incorrectly assumed to be a poinsettia leaf. Since that non-poinsettia death in 1919, there haven't been any real ones either. And no wonder: a 50 lb. child would have to eat more than 1.25 lbs. of poinsettia bracts (about 500 to 600 leaves) to exceed the experimental doses, according to the POISINDEX Information Service. (POISINDEX is the primary resource used by most poison control centers.) Further, the American Medical Association's *Handbook of Poisonous and Injurious Plants* lists nothing more than occasional vomiting as a side effect of ingesting otherwise harmless poinsettia leaves. And in 1975 the Consumer Products Safety Commission cited lack of substantial evidence in its decision to deny a petition requiring warning labels for poinsettias.

At Christmas Time ...



may peace fill your home
may joy fill your heart
and may the spirit
of the season stay with you
throughout the year!

Happy Holidays from all of us

Van · Kelly · Monika · Maureen
PINCKARD · WYJAD · FLEMING Associates
Barristers Solicitors Notaries

COMPUTER STUDIES

Access - Part 1
SECTION 52 - Thu, Jan 25
SECTION 53 - Sat, Apr 14
FEE \$45.96

COMP249
9:00am-12:00pm
9:00am-12:00pm

Access - Part 2
SECTION 52 - Thu, Feb 8
SECTION 53 - Sat, Apr 28
FEE \$45.96

COMP250
9:00am-12:00pm
9:00am-12:00pm

Access - Part 3
SECTION 52 - Thu, Feb 22
SECTION 53 - Sat, May 12
FEE \$45.96

COMP251
9:00am-12:00pm
9:00am-12:00pm

Adobe PhotoShop
Sat, Mar 10
FEE \$69.43

COMP155
9:00am-3:00pm

Adobe Photoshop Advanced
Sat, Mar 24
FEE \$45.96

COMP274
9:00am-12:00pm

Browsing the Internet
Sat, Apr 21
FEE \$45.96

COMP172
9:00am-12:00pm

eBay Buying I
Sat, Mar 17
FEE \$45.96

COMP342
9:00am-12:00pm

eBay Buying II
Sat, Apr 7
FEE \$45.96

COMP343
9:00am-12:00pm

eBay Selling I
Sat, May 26
FEE \$45.96

COMP340
9:00am-12:00pm

eBay Selling II
Sat, Jun 9
FEE \$45.96

COMP341
9:00am-12:00pm

E-mail Workshop
Wed, Apr 4
FEE \$45.96

COMP160
6:30pm-9:30pm

Excel - Part 1
SECTION 52 - Sat, Feb 3
SECTION 53 - Thu, Apr 26
FEE \$45.96

COMP254
9:00am-12:00pm
9:00am-12:00pm

Excel - Part 2
SECTION 52 - Sat, Feb 17
SECTION 53 - Thu, May 17
FEE \$45.96

COMP255
9:00am-12:00pm
9:00am-12:00pm

Excel - Part 3
SECTION 52 - Sat, Mar 03
SECTION 53 - Thu, May 31
FEE \$45.96

COMP256
9:00am-12:00pm
9:00am-12:00pm

File Management
Tue, Apr 17
FEE \$45.96

COMP144
6:30pm-9:30pm

Introduction to Computers I
SECTION 53 - Sat, Jan 27
SECTION 54 - Tue, Mar 6
FEE \$45.96

COMP346
9:00am-12:00pm
6:30pm-9:30pm

Introduction to Computers II
SECTION 53 - Sat, Feb 10
SECTION 54 - Tue, Mar 20
FEE \$45.96

COMP347
9:00am-12:00pm
6:30pm-9:30pm

Introduction to Computers III
SECTION 53 - Sat, Feb 24
SECTION 54 - Tue, Apr 3
FEE \$45.96

COMP348
9:00am-12:00pm
6:30pm-9:30pm

Haliburton Campus Part Time Studies Winter/Spring 2007

Mail Merge
Thu, May 3
FEE \$45.96

COMP248
9:00am-12:00pm

Microsoft Project I
Thu, Mar 8
FEE \$45.96

COMP271
9:00am-12:00pm

Microsoft Project II
Thu, Mar 22
FEE \$45.96

COMP272
9:00am-12:00pm

Microsoft Project III
Thu, Apr 12
FEE \$45.96

COMP273
9:00am-12:00pm

Microsoft Word
Sat, May 5
FEE \$45.96

COMP174
9:00am-12:00pm

Microsoft Word II
Sat, May 19
FEE \$45.96

COMP214
9:00am-12:00pm

Microsoft Word III
Sat, Jun 2
FEE \$45.96

COMP336
9:00am-12:00pm

Power Point
Thu, Mar 15
FEE \$45.96

COMP252
9:00am-12:00pm

Power Point II
Thu, Mar 29
FEE \$45.96

COMP253
9:00am-12:00pm

Scanning & Using Pictures
Tue, Feb 6
FEE \$45.96

COMP175
6:30pm-9:30pm

Web Design I
Tue, May 1
FEE \$45.96

COMP337
6:30pm-9:30pm

Web Design II
Tue, May 15
FEE \$45.96

COMP338
6:30pm-9:30pm

Web Design III
Tue, May 29
FEE \$45.96

COMP339
6:30pm-9:30pm

Web Design IV
Tue, June 12
FEE \$45.96

COMP344
6:30pm-9:30pm

**Windows XP Maintenance
& Troubleshooting**
Tue, Feb 20
FEE \$45.96

COMP224
6:30pm-9:30pm

LANGUAGE

Spanish - Level II
Wed, Jan 17 - Mar 28
FEE \$127.25

LANG044
6:30pm-9:00pm

Spanish - Level IV
Tue, Jan 16 - Mar 27
FEE \$127.25

LANG046
6:30pm-9:00pm

COOKING & HOSPITALITY

Italian Cooking
Sat, Jan 27
FEE \$39.70

CULN056
1:00pm-6:00pm

**Smart Serve
By Appointment**
FEE \$53.30

HOSP019

CPR AND FIRST AID

CPR - Basic Rescuer (Level C)
Fri, Apr 13
Sat, Apr 14
FEE \$58.00

HLTH057
6:00pm-10:00pm
9:00am-12:00pm

CPR Basic Rescuer (Level C) Recert
Fri, Apr 13
Sat, Apr 14
FEE \$47.30

HLTH080
6:00pm-10:00pm
9:00am-12:00pm

Emergency Medical Response
Fri, Apr 13
Sat, Apr 14
Sun, Apr 15
FEE \$122.90

HLTH079
6:00pm-10:00pm
9:00am-6:00pm
9:00am-6:00pm

First Aid Standard
Fri, Apr 13
Sat, Apr 14
Sun, Apr 15
FEE \$101.44

HLTH081
6:00pm-10:00pm
9:00am-6:00pm
9:00am-6:00pm

First Aid - Standard Recertification
Fri, Apr 13
Sat, Apr 14
FEE \$85.60

HLTH082
6:00pm-10:00pm
9:00am-6:00pm

DANCE

Ballroom Dancing
Wed, Jan 24 March 28
FEE \$97.00

ARTS817
8:00pm-9:00pm

Ballroom Dancing II
Wed Jan 24-Mar 28
Wed April 4-Jun 6
FEE \$97.00

ARTS832
6:00pm-7:00pm
9:00pm - 10:00pm

Ballroom Dancing III
Wed, April 4 June 6
FEE \$97.00

ARTS833
8:00pm-9:00pm

Couples Salsa Dancing II
Wed, Jan 24 March 28
FEE \$97.00

ARTS834
9:00pm-10:00pm

Solo Salsa Dancing II
Wed, Jan 24 March 28
FEE \$97.00

ARTS836
7:00pm-8:00pm

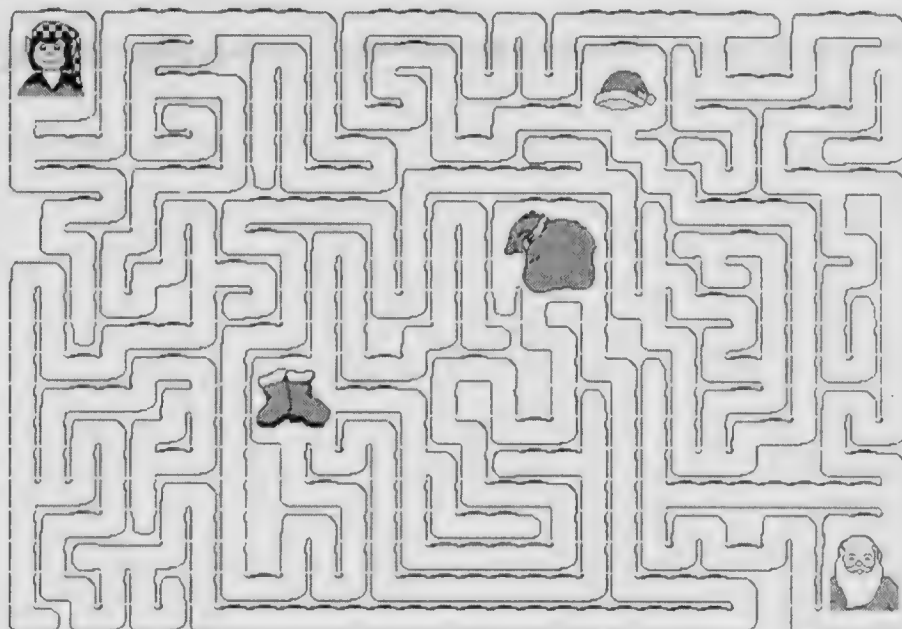
Courses cont'd...next page....

To Register Call 705-457-1680

www.flemingcollege.com

Fleming College

Experience Success



MAZE

Help Santa find
his elf

Courses cont'd... from previous page

Dance cont'd....

Couples Salsa Dancing III
Wed, April 4 June 6
FEE \$97.00

ARTS835
7:00pm-8:00pm

Solo Salsa Dancing III
Wed, April 4 June 6
FEE \$97.00

ARTS837
6:00pm-7:00pm

OUTDOOR & RECREATION

Basic Survival Preparedness
Sat, Apr 21
FEE \$100.68

CART006
9:00am-5:00pm

Boat Operator Accredited Training
Sat, Apr 21
FEE \$65.90

RECR030
8:30am-6:30pm

Chainsaw Operator
Sat, Jun 16 & Sat & Sun, Jun 23 & 24
FEE \$122.16

MECH082
8:00am-5:00pm

**Edible/Medicinal
Wild Plants Workshop**
Sat, Jun 16
FEE 100.68

CART008
9:00am-5:00pm

**Map, Compass &
Basic GPS Navigation**
Sat, May 12
FEE 100.68

ART005
9:00am-5:00pm

Winter Camping & Survival Skills
Sat, Feb 10
FEE 100.68

CART009
9:00am-5:00pm

RED CROSS SWIM PROGRAM

SPRING SESSIONS
Pinestone Pool
Tuesdays & Wednesdays March 20- May 22
FEE \$125.05

SUSTAINABLE BUILDING

Backyard Clay Oven
Mon - Fri, Apr 28 - May 4
FEE \$241.77

ARTS818
9:00am-4:30pm

Dry Stone Structures
Mon - Fri, May 14 - May 18
FEE \$241.77

ARTS087
9:00am-4:30pm

Renewable Energy
April 2 4
FEE \$152.70

NATR037 Mon - Wed,
9:00am 4:00pm

Straw Bale Construction
Apr 9 - Apr 13
FEE \$241.77

ARTS302 Mon - Fri,
9:00am-4:30pm

Timber Framing
Apr 16 - Apr 21
FEE \$274.86

ARTS298 Mon - Sat,
9:00am-4:30pm

**Timber Framing
Introduction to Design**
Sat, Apr 14
Sun, Apr15
FEE \$90.12

ARTS383
9:00am-4:30pm
9:00am-Noon

WORKSHOPS

Makeup Application I
Sat, Apr 14
FEE \$59.00

COSM012
9:00am-12:00pm

Makeup Application II
Sat, Apr 28
FEE \$59.00

COSM013
9:00am-12:00pm

Music's Hidden Advantage
Sat, Feb 10
FEE \$65.00

ARTS815
9:00am-4:00pm

Photography Workshop
Sat, Mar 17
FEE \$50.00

ARTS669
9:00am-4:00pm

Pottery Beginners
Thursdays Mar 8 to May 31
FEE \$ 294.85 (includes \$20 material fee)

ART175
6:30pm-9:30pm

www.flemingcollege.com

Haliburton Campus Part Time Studies Winter/Spring 2007

To Register Call 705-457-1680

Handling Grief At The Holidays

The following article really hits home for Brett and myself and our family. Roberta Welsh (Joanne's mother) passed away this year. This will be our first Christmas without her and she will be missed. I also dedicate this column to Mike & Bonnie Henshall for their recent loss of Mike's mother, and to The Monk family of Minden with the recent loss of Gordon Monk, and to Anita at the Firehouse Restaurant who suffered the sudden loss of her brother this year – and to everyone else who has lost a dear one prior to this Christmas - maybe this article will help.

Each year, millions of people are faced with the prospect of a holiday period that is heavy with sadness rather than joy.

Walking by a brightly decorated house, hearing a carol, or planning for a family dinner, can be painful reminders of loss. For many, the holidays are a joyous period marked by festive celebrations, a time to look ahead with excitement to the coming new year, but for others, they may be grieving a death, and still others may be anticipating the death of a loved one, knowing the holidays are approaching. Everything around them encourages them to have a 'happy' holiday - not always an easy accomplishment for those dealing with grief and loss.

There are a few things you can do to ease the stress of the holidays, and as well, we give you some hints on how to help those grieving during this time.

Pare down your "to do" list. Take care of yourself at this busy, stressful time. This may mean taking a break from the normal bustle of the season. Recognize that a slower pace may be better for your mental and emotional well-being.

The absence of your loved one may become especially evident and painful as you participate in holiday activities such as decorating your home or gathering for family photos. Consider adding new traditions that commemorate your loved one. For example, visit the gravesite, or light a candle and ask family members to share stories or a moment of silence in his or her memory.

Seek help. Rely on family and friends for support. Many cemeteries and funeral homes offer bereavement resources and can refer you to support groups.

The holidays can be a stressful time. For those who have suffered a loss, it is important to set realistic expectations and find meaningful ways to remember the deceased.

Our love and wishes for a joyful holiday goes out to all who have lost someone dear this year or in previous years – or for those who are dealing

with pending loss. Remember, they would want us to be happy this holiday season – let them see you smile.

There are many ways families can memorialize someone:

Recognize that holiday traditions might not be the same. Expecting everything to be the same might lead to disappointment. Consider doing things a bit differently, which will allow you to acknowledge the change in your life while preserving your connection to the past.

Create a memory tree. Everyone can bring an ornament made in the persons memory to decorate the tree.

Set a special place at the dinner table and have everyone write a letter and place it on the persons plate.

Make a memorial donation to a favorite charity. In memory of the loved one, work at a soup kitchen with your family and order pizza for your own dinner. Adopt a family for Christmas.

If you live within driving distance of the cemetery, decorate the memorial site with a holiday theme. This could include flowers, garlands, ribbons, bows, evergreen-branches, packages, pinecones or a miniature Christmas tree. Decorating the site yourself can be helpful in remembering and celebrating your loved one's life during the holidays, and may free you to cherish the present holiday with your remaining family.

Shakespeare once said, "Give sorrow words..." Write an "un-sent letter" to your loved one, expressing what you are honestly feeling toward him or her at this moment. After you compose the letter, you may decide to place it in a book, album or drawer in your home, leave it at a memorial site, throw it away, or even burn it and let the ashes rise symbolically.

Five Assumptions That May Complicate Grief:

Bereavement is a powerful, life-changing experience that most people find overwhelming the first time. Although grief is a natural process of human life, most of us are not inherently able to manage it alone. At the same time, others are often unable to provide aid or insight because of

Christmas Grief cont'd... pg. 39...

Enjoy The
Spirit and Joy
Of Christmas



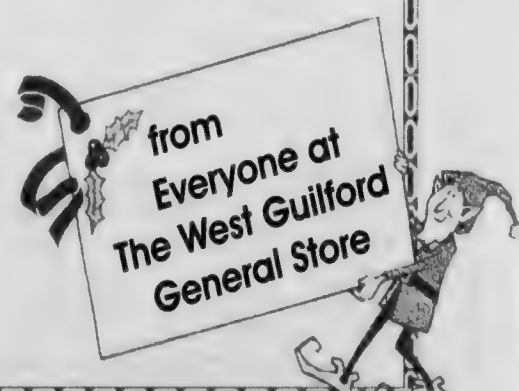
Wishing you
the true spirit of
Christmas all
year long!

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A sincere thank
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year an
outstanding
one. We look
forward to
serving you
in the years
to come!

Deck
the Halls

from
Everyone at
The West Guilford
General Store



Holiday Grief Cont'd...

... from pg. 38

discomfort with the situation and the desire to avoid making things worse. The following passage explains how some of our "normal" assumptions about grief may make it more difficult to deal with.

1. Life prepares us for loss. More is learned about loss through experience than through preparation. Living may not provide preparation for survival. Handling grief resulting from the death of a loved one is a process that takes hard work. The fortunate experience of a happy life may not have built a complete foundation for handling loss. Healing is built through perseverance, support and understanding. *The bereaved need others: Find others who are empathetic.*

2. Family and friends will understand. If a spouse dies children lose a parent, a sibling loses a sibling, a parent loses a child and a friend loses a friend. Only one loses a spouse. Each response is different according to the relationship. Family and friends may not be capable of understanding each other thoroughly. Consider the story of Job's grief in the Bible. Job's wife did not understand his grief. His friends did their best work the first week when they just sat and did not speak. It was when they began to share their judgements of Job and his life that they complicated Job's grief. Allowance must be made so that grief may be experienced and processed over time. *The bereaved need others: Find others who are accepting.*

3. The bereaved should be finished with their grief within one year or something is wrong. During the first year the bereaved will experience one of everything for the first time alone: anniversaries, birthdays, occasions, etc. Therefore grief will last for at least one year. The cliché, "the healing hands of time," does not go far enough to explain what must take place. The key to handling grief is in what work is done over time. It takes time and work to decide what to do and where to go with the new and changed life that is left behind. *The bereaved need others: Find others who are patient.*

4. Along with the end of grief's pain comes the end of the memories. At times, the bereaved may embrace the pain of grief believing it is all they have left. The lingering close bond to the deceased is sometimes thought to maintain the memories while, in fact, just the opposite is true. In learning to let go and live a new and changed life memories tend to come back more clearly. Growth and healing comes in learning to enjoy memories. *The bereaved need others: Find new friends and interests.*

5. The bereaved should grieve alone. After the funeral service is over the bereaved may find themselves alone. They may feel as though they are going crazy, painfully uncertain in their world of thoughts and emotions. The bereaved begin to feel normal again when the experience is shared with others who have lost a loved one. Then, in reaching out, the focus of life becomes forward. *The bereaved need others: Find others who are experienced*

Whenever we face loss, we experience grief. The responses that we have as we grieve are very unique and individual. Each of us responds differently to loss. And we may even experience different reactions as we face different kinds of losses. Our reactions to grief can include physical symptoms, feelings, thoughts and behaviors.

Many times, we experience grief emotionally. We may experience all kinds as we face loss. Anger, for example, is a common and natural reaction to loss. That loss may then create a deep sense of powerlessness and

rage. We may be angry with god, or the universe, for this unfair act. And we may express that anger and rage, taking it out on others around us.

Another common reaction to loss is guilt. We can experience guilt in so many ways. Sometimes we feel guilty because we believe we may have caused or contributed to the death. We are haunted by the "if onlys." "If only I had forbade him to go to that party." Sometimes we feel guilty because we believe we are morally responsible, that god is punishing us for something we had done.

Your first response to your loss might be what is called **shock**. First there is an icy fear, then numbness. This numbness seems to have a purpose. It could be called nature's insulation-a cushion against the blow. In the midst of this shock, this numbness, you may have trouble believing your loved one is gone. On one level, your mind understands what has happened, but on a deeper level all of your habits and memories are denying death. This disbelief or denial is normal.

Numbness usually wears off in a few days or weeks, but **denial** may remain in some form for months. Some mourners keep a few of the beloved's clothes hanging in the closet. Others are slow to rearrange their home or the pattern to their lives. Do what seems right for you. There are no rules. If denial interferes with normal functioning, then it can become a matter of concern.

Keep in mind that **disbelief** in some form is perfectly normal. Like the other responses to loss, it eventually disappears. As time goes on, you will see that you are moving toward acceptance.

You may be surprised by how **angry** you are. Even when there is no one to blame for the death, you may try to find someone or something to be angry at. This is normal.

Often anger is a protest about a great and unjust loss. You may even be angry with your loved one for leaving you. That's common although hard to admit and hard to express. Instead, you may "take it out" on the medical people, other relatives, or god.

Even if anger seems well justified, work on releasing the pain and hurt of the anger. The sooner you do, the sooner you will heal.

Few survivors escape without some feeling of **guilt**. You may feel guilty because you didn't urge your spouse to get to the doctor with those first symptoms. A long illness, during which you cared for the person, may have led to a feeling of resentment and then to guilt over the resentment.

Sometimes writing a letter to the loved one helps. You can say everything you wish you had said earlier.

Whatever your situation, realize that feelings of guilt and regret are normal. If you need it, get professional or religious counseling.

When numbness wears off and anger cools, deep **sadness** may arrive. This is time when you need a friend, someone to listen and not judge, someone who will allow your rambling and repetitive talk about your loss. A friend can also help get you into *activity*, some diversion for mind and body. Consider sports activities or anything soothing and physical. But avoid frantic activity-it's like running away, and you need to face reality.

Healing is slow, but it does come, and it will come for you. Through the years ahead there will be moments of sadness, reminders of the relationships that means so much to you. Accept these times of the relationship that means so much to you. Accept these times as symbols of the relationship that will always remain in your heart.



YES Virginia.... THERE IS A SANTA CLAUS!!

We printed this feature last year, but it's so good it just has to be repeated!! This is for you Carol!!

Where does the expression "Yes Virginia, There is a Santa Claus" actually come from?.. The following will explain... it is an actual copy of what appeared in the Editorial Page of the New York Sun in 1879....

Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus
Editorial Page, New York Sun, 1897

I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in The Sun, it's so." Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?

Virginia O'Hanlon

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a sceptical age. They do not believe except what they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus.

He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The external light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus? Thank God he lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!!

seasons
greetings



Wishing Everyone a Safe & Happy
Holiday Season

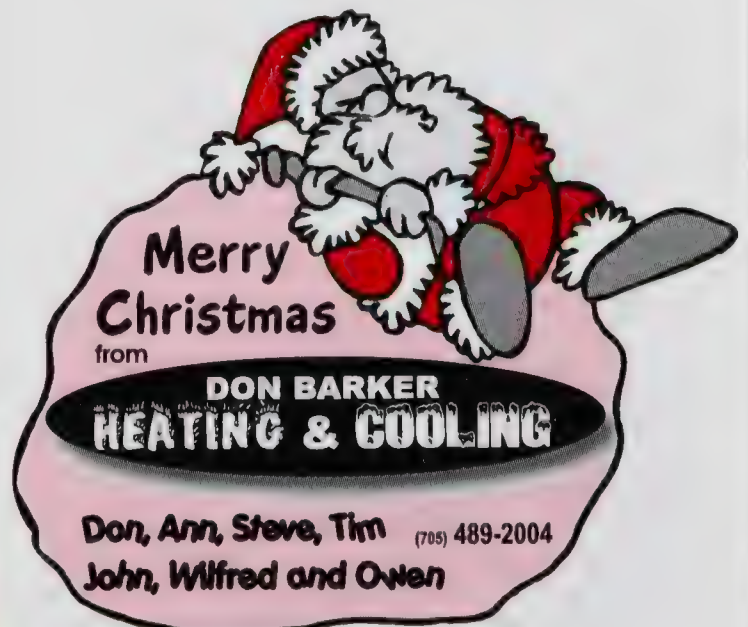
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Who Is Virginia And What Became of Her & The Reporter?

Francis P. Church's editorial, "Yes Virginia, There is a Santa Claus" was an immediate sensation, and became one of the most famous editorials ever written. It first appeared in the The New York Sun in 1897, over a hundred years ago, and was reprinted annually until 1949 when the paper went out of business.

Thirty-six years after her letter was printed, Virginia O'Hanlon recalled the events that prompted her letter:

"Quite naturally I believed in Santa Claus, for he had never disappointed me. But when less fortunate little boys and girls said there wasn't any Santa Claus, I was filled with doubts. I asked my father, and he was a little evasive on the subject.

"It was a habit in our family that whenever any doubts came up as to how to pronounce a word or some question of historical fact was in doubt, we wrote to the Question and Answer column in 'The Sun'. Father would always say, 'If you see it in the 'The Sun', it's so,' and that settled the matter.

'Well, I'm just going to write "The Sun" and find out the real truth,' I said to father.

"He said, 'Go ahead, Virginia. I'm sure "The Sun" will give you the right answer, as it always does.' "

And so Virginia sat down and wrote to her parents' favorite newspaper.

Her letter found its way into the hands of a veteran editor, Francis P. Church. Son of a Baptist minister, Church had covered the Civil War for "The New York Times" and had worked on the "The New York Sun" for 20 years, more recently as an anonymous editorial writer. Church, a sardonic man, had for his personal motto, "Endeavour to clear your mind of cant." When controversial subjects had to be tackled on the editorial page, especially those dealing with theology, the assignments were usually given to Church.

Now, he had in his hands a little girl's letter on a most contro-

versial matter, and he was burdened with the responsibility of answering it.

"Is there a Santa Claus?" the childish scrawl in the letter asked. At once, Church knew that there was no avoiding the question. He must answer, and he must answer truthfully. And so he turned to his desk, and he began his reply which was to become one of the most memorable editorials in newspaper history.

Church married shortly after the editorial appeared. He died in April, 1906, leaving no children.

Virginia O'Hanlon went on to graduate from Hunter College with a Bachelor of Arts degree at age 21. The following year she received her Master's from Columbia, and in 1912 she began teaching in the New York City school system, later becoming a principal. After 47 years, she retired as an educator. Throughout her life she received a steady stream of mail about her Santa Claus letter, and to each reply she attached an attractive printed copy of the Church editorial. Virginia O'Hanlon Douglas died on May 13, 1971, at the age of 81, in a nursing home in Valatie, N.Y.

I'm not going to vacuum 'til Sears
makes one you can ride on.



HOLIDAY GREETINGS!!

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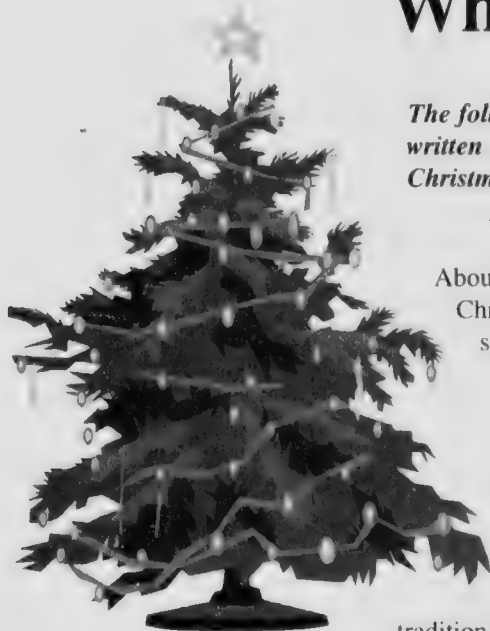
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GARAGE DOORS

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Why Buy A Real Christmas Tree



The following article is written by the Canadian Christmas Tree Growers' Association

About forty million real Christmas trees are sold in North America every year. Of these, five to six million are grown in Canada. A real Christmas tree is part of the Christmas

tradition and contributes to making Christmas a real and meaningful experience.

Many are said to be using artificial trees to save our forests. The truth is, however, that almost all trees harvested in Canada are grown on Christmas tree farms. Thanks to the annual demand for Christmas trees, thousands of acres of otherwise unfarmed land is being farmed. Indeed, Christmas tree farms are most often located

on land, which could not be used to grow other farm products (these farms are on barren slopes or under power lines). In addition, for each tree harvested, about ten others are being grown on farms to prepare for the next ten harvest seasons.

Most Christmas trees in Canada are produced from tree seeds put in seedbeds for a period of two years before they are moved to transplant beds. The transplants remain in the transplant bed for a period of three years. They are then moved into Christmas tree farms. It will then take between 7 and 10 years before the trees reach 2 metres and are therefore ready to be harvested.

In some regions, mostly in Nova Scotia, Christmas trees are cultivated in natural stands; « Mother » trees continually replenish seedlings where mature trees have been harvested. Christmas trees have positive effects on the environment: they produce oxygen and rid the air of carbon dioxide, thereby reducing the earth-warming greenhouse effect;⁽¹⁾ they improve soil stability; they provide an aesthetically pleasing improvement to the land and bring value to portions of land which could not be used to grow other crops; they serve as wildlife habitat; they are naturally biodegradable; and they are a renewable resource.

(1) Christmas trees eliminate the carbon dioxide created by the use of fossil fuels. Indeed, a one-acre Christmas tree plantation can remove up to 13,000 kg of airborne pollutants per year.

(2) Christmas tree farms are havens for a wide variety of birds and other animals.

For their part, artificial trees are manufactured from PVC, plastic and metal - i.e. environmentally damaging and non-renewable resources. Further, upon their disposal, artificial Christmas trees pollute our landfill sites for centuries to come as they are not biodegradable (i.e. cannot be broken down naturally). Considering that the average life span of an artificial tree

Real Christmas Trees cont'd... pg. 43...

Merry Christmas

Fill your heart with God's light, and spread the love of His message to all you meet.
Wishing you a blessed 2007!

195 Highland Street, Haliburton
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In The Village Barn

Master's Book Store

Here's hoping your holiday is filled with fun and excitement.

from the gang at
Brooklin
CONCRETE INC.

Haliburton

Real Christmas Trees Cont'd....

... from pg. 42

is only six years, one can imagine the enormous damage to the environment done by artificial Christmas trees.

Further, real Christmas trees are grown at home and have a positive effect on Canada's employment and economy.

People's Concern

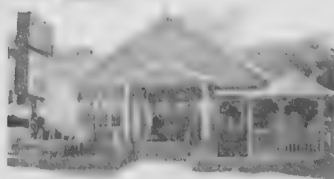
Many people wrongly believe that a Christmas tree can be the cause of a fire. Of course, this can't be true. A Christmas tree which is well cared for will remain fresh and will not catch fire unless a strong flame supported by inflammable material is placed under the tree. In fact, there were examples of houses, which burned completely while having a real Christmas tree, which did not even catch fire. For their part, artificial trees do catch fire and, when they do, they emanate dangerous toxic fumes.

Other people have mentioned that real Christmas tree dry up and leave needles on their carpets after the Christmas season is over. Fresh trees don't shed needles. Kept in water, it is not unusual for Christmas trees to last two months or more in your home shedding very few needles.

Finally, many are of the opinion that Christmas trees unduly fill landfill sites after Christmas? NO! Most municipalities collect discarded natural Christmas trees and chip them for use as mulching materials. Real Christmas trees are completely biodegradable and will, on their own, break down and return their stored nutrients to the soil from which they came.

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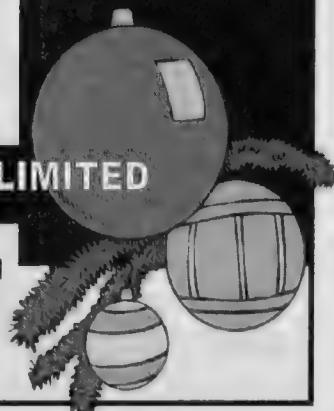
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Wishing you a season
filled with all the joys
you can imagine.

Thank you for your
patronage.

We look forward to
serving you in the
new year.



Have you ever thought of including the wildlife of your neighbourhood in all the feasting and merriment of the season?

Begin a tradition that will charm the children and your gathered friends. Prepare a special treat tree for the birds and squirrels of your neighbourhood.

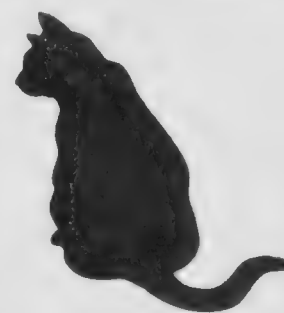
Plan a party to decorate it with small squares of suit tied with ribbon, strings of cranberries and popcorn, small net sachets filled with fat or butter, and roping of tiny pretzels strung on paper ribbon. Decorative crackers placed among the pine branches also make endearing ornaments. Use paper ribbon to attach the decorations. Make the colors festive.

Make sure too, that it is easy for the birds and squirrels to loosen and remove food gifts tied with the ribbon. You won't have to worry about food. Serve the snacks you'll be using to decorate the tree, popcorn, pretzels, crackers and cranberries. Add some steaming hot chocolate as the finale, and you should have a satisfied crew.

Cat Treats

Ingredients:

- 1-cup whole-wheat flour
- 2 tablespoons wheat germ
- 1/4-cup soy flour
- 1/3-cup dry milk
- 1-teaspoon catnip
- 1/3-cup milk
- 2 tablespoons Butter
- 1 Egg
- 1 tablespoon Unsulfured molasses



Instructions:

- Mix dry ingredients.
- Add remaining ingredients
- Roll on a greased cookie sheet . Cut into bite sized



pieces . Bake at 350 F for 20 minutes
Let cool . Store in airtight container.



Merry Christmas!

from

Wayne, Chester & Tim at

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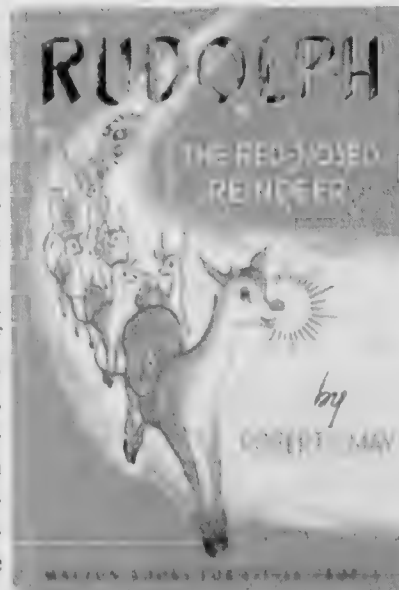
The True Story of Rudolf The Red Nosed Reindeer

To most of us, the character of Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer — immortalized in song and a popular TV special — has always been an essential part of our Christmas folklore. But Rudolph is a decidedly twentieth-century invention whose creation can be traced to a specific time and person. The character 'Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer' was created for the Montgomery Ward group of department stores.

Rudolph came to life in 1939 when the Chicago-based Montgomery Ward company (operators of a chain of department stores) asked one of their copywriters, 34-year-old Robert L. May, to come up with a Christmas story they could give away to shoppers as a promotional gimmick. (The Montgomery Ward stores had been buying and giving away coloring books for Christmas every year, and May's department head saw creating a giveaway booklet of their own as a way to save money.) May, who had a penchant for writing children's stories and limericks, was tapped to create the booklet.

May, drawing in part on the tale of The Ugly Duckling and his own background (he was a often taunted as a child for being

shy, small, and slight), settled on the idea of an underdog ostracized by the reindeer community because of his physical abnormality: a glowing red nose. Looking for an alliterative name, May considered and rejected Rollo (too cheerful and carefree a name for the story of a misfit) and Reginald (too British) before deciding on Rudolph. He then proceeded to write Rudolph's story in verse, as a series of rhyming couplets, testing it out on his 4-year-old daughter Barbara as he went along. Although Barbara was thrilled with Rudolph's story, May's boss was worried that a story featuring a red nose — an image associated with drinking and drunkards — was unsuitable for a Christmas tale. May responded by taking Denver Gillen, a friend from Montgomery Ward's art department, to the Lincoln Park Zoo to sketch some deer. Gillen's illustrations of a red-nosed reindeer overcame the hesitancy of May's bosses, and the Rudolph story was approved. Montgomery Ward distributed 2.4 million copies of the Rudolph booklet in 1939, and although wartime paper shortages curtailed printing for the next several years, a total of 6 million copies had been given by the end of 1946.



The post-war demand for licensing the Rudolph character was tremendous, but since May had created the story as an employee of Montgomery Ward, they held the copyright and he received no royalties. Deeply in debt from the medical bills resulting from his wife's terminal illness (she died about the time May created Rudolph), May persuaded Montgomery Ward's corporate president, Sewell Avery, to turn the copyright over to him in January 1947. With the rights to his creation in hand, May's financial security was assured. "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" was printed commercially in 1947 and shown in theaters as a nine-minute cartoon the following year.

The Rudolph phenomenon really took off, however, when May's brother-in-law, songwriter Johnny Marks, developed the lyrics and melody for a Rudolph song. Marks' musical version of "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" (turned down by many

Season's Greetings

May your heart and home be filled with joy during this holiday season and throughout the year.

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Have a Cuddly Christmas!

Join family and friends to make this Christmas one to remember forever! Wishing you all the joys of this special time of the year.

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Rudolf Con'td...

... from pg. 44

who didn't want to meddle with the established Santa legend) was recorded by Gene Autry in 1949, sold two million copies that year, and went on to become one of the best-selling songs of all time (second only to "White Christmas"). A TV special about Rudolph narrated by Burl Ives was produced in 1964 and remains a popular perennial holiday favorite.

May quit his copywriting job in 1951 and spent seven years managing his creation before returning to Montgomery Ward, where he worked until his retirement in 1971. May died in 1976, comfortable in the life his reindeer creation had provided for him.

It might be fitting to close this story by pointing out that, although the story of Rudolph is primarily known to us through the lyrics of Johnny Marks' song, the story May wrote is substantially different in a number of ways. Rudolph was not one of Santa's reindeer (or the offspring of one of Santa's reindeer), and he did not live at the North Pole. Rudolph dwelled in an "ordinary" reindeer village elsewhere, and although he was taunted and laughed at for having a shiny red nose, he was not regarded by his parents as a shameful embarrassment.

Rudolph was brought up in a loving household and was a responsible reindeer with a good self-image and sense of worth. Moreover, Rudolph did not rise to fame when Santa picked him out from the reindeer herd because of his shiny nose. Santa discovered the red-nosed reindeer quite by accident, when he noticed the glow emanating from Rudolph's room while delivering presents to Rudolph's house. Worried that the thickening fog — already the cause of several accidents and delays — would keep him from completing his Christmas Eve rounds, Santa tapped Rudolph to lead his team, observing upon their return: "By YOU last night's journey was actually bossed. Without you, I'm certain we'd all have been lost!"

Magic Reindeer Food

1/2 c. dry oatmeal

1/2 c. birdseed

1/3 c. crystal sugar

1 heartfelt of Christmas hope

Mix ingredients together. On Christmas Eve sprinkle all over your lawn. The crystal sugar will shine in the moonlight and lead Santa to your house before dawn. **[DO NOT USE GLITTERS AS IT IS TOXIC FOR BIRDS AND WILDLIFE]** The smell of the oats will guide the reindeer directly to your rooftop. The Christmas hope in the magic reindeer food guarantees dear Santa will stop.

Reindeer Are Gals!!!

According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, while both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year, male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid-December. Female reindeer retain their antlers till after they give birth in the spring.

Therefore, according to EVERY historical rendition depicting Santa's reindeer, EVERY single one of them, from Rudolph to Blitzen, had to be a girl.

We should've known. ONLY women would be able to drag a chubby man in a red velvet suit all around the world in one night and not get lost.

The 8 Reindeer

Can you recite the names of Santa's eight reindeer? If so, you probably do it by recalling the first few lines of the 1949 song "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer":

**You know Dasher and Dancer, and Prancer and Vixen;
Comet and Cupid, and Donner and Blitzen...**

Although hardly anyone realizes it, two of those names are wrong when compared to the work that added eight (individually named) reindeer to the nascent Santa Claus legend: "A Visit from Saint Nicholas," first published in 1823.

These are indeed the names that appeared in the original 1823 publication of "A Visit from Saint Nicholas":

**"Now! Dasher, now! Dancer, now! Prancer, and Vixen,
On! Comet, on! Cupid, on! Dunder and Blixem;**



**Wishing all
a Merry Christmas
& Happy New Year**

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this holiday season
has to offer.**

Some Interesting Christmas Facts:

According to Daniel Boorstin in his book "The Americans," Christmas was largely a non-event in America until the 1860s: 1867 was the first year that Macy's department store in New York City remained open until midnight on Christmas Eve. 1874 was the year of the first window displays with a Christmas theme at Macy's. It has snowballed from there.

According to the book "Extraordinary Origins of Everyday Things," by Charles Panati: The church forbade the use of mistletoe in any form, mindful of its idolatrous associations. As a substitute, it suggested holly. The sharply pointed leaves were to symbolize the thorns in Christ's crown and the red berries drops of his blood. Holly became a nativity tradition. The Christian ban on mistletoe was in effect throughout the Middle Ages. Surprisingly, as late as the 20th century, there were churches in England that forbade the wearing of mistletoe sprigs and corsages during services.

For Scandinavians, the goddess of love (**Frigga**) is strongly associated with mistletoe. This link to romance may be where our tradition of kissing under mistletoe comes from.

Christmas cards started in London in 1843 and in America in 1846.

In Canada, Christmas traditions have come from many countries. France has given us its celebration of the Nativity with its old carols, Germany the Christmas tree and its many ornaments and England, greeting cards. Ireland has bequeathed us the ancient Gaelic custom of putting lights in windows. The United States has provided Santa Claus and Czechoslovakia and Japan have produced a flood of Christmas tree and interior home decorations of all kinds.

The song "(I'm Dreaming of a) White Christmas," written by Irving Berlin for the movie "Holiday Inn" (1942) and sung by Bing Crosby, is one of the best-selling songs of all time.

Winter was a time of celebration to pre-Christian Romans and they decorated fir trees in honor of this seasonal change.

For every real Christmas tree harvested, 2 to 3 seedlings are planted in its place. Each hectare provides the daily oxygen requirements of 45 people.

Due to the time zones, Santa has 31 hours to deliver gifts? This means that he would have to visit 832 homes each second!

Season's Greetings

Jason
Clay
Amy
Denise
Andy

Sandra
Emily
Michelle
Kirsten

Irma
Colleen
Shelia
Elsie



Erica
Allie

Katherine
Jessica
Marianne

Deanne
Ashley
Andrew
Tammy

The use of a Christmas wreath as a decoration on your front door, mantel or bay window symbolizes a sign of welcome and long life to all who enter.

Three years after Thomas Edison invented the electric light bulb in 1879, Edward H. Johnson, who worked for Edison's company, had Christmas tree bulbs especially made for him. He proudly displayed his electric tree lights at his home on Fifth Avenue, New York City. They caused a sensation although some years were to pass before mass-manufactured Christmas tree lights were widely available.

In America in 1822, the postmaster of Washington, DC, complained that he had to add 16 mailmen at Christmas to deal with cards alone. He wanted the number of cards a person could send limited by law. "I don't know what we'll do if this keeps on," he wrote.

In Armenia, the traditional Christmas Eve meal consists of fried fish, lettuce, and spinach. The meal is traditionally eaten after the Christmas Eve service, in commemoration of the supper eaten by Mary on the evening before Christ's birth.

Designer Gabrielle "Coco" Chanel introduced her first perfume in 1921. She gave it the name "Chanel No. 5." According to Chanel, she jumped straight to number five because it was her lucky number. To add luck to the fragrance, she introduced it on the fifth day of May, the fifth month. Chanel No. 5 became the world's best selling perfume. It is and always has been a favourite Christmas gift.

from the gang at:

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A Ticked Off Turkey

by Carol from Haliburton

This, a true story I've made
now a poem
It happened one day, a long
time ago
We use to raise chickens and
turkeys to eat
I'll tell you all now, it was
quite a feat!
They'd always get out from
where they were kept
During the day, sometimes
while we slept
One day while I was home
and alone
A turkey escaped and
decided to roam
Through the window, I saw
him go past
His head just a bobbin'
furious and fast
I ran out towards him, and
started to yell
I wanted to scare him back to
his cell
He stopped and turned, and
gave me a stare
As if to say *human, you'd
better beware!*
This was the biggest turkey
we had
Almost my height and he
looked really mad!
I thought for a second as to
what I should do
A turkey with attitude - that
was my cue!
I ran to the house as fast as I
could
He wouldn't follow...? Oh
yes he would!

Hot on my trail and picking up
speed
My Christmas dinner was
chasing me!
I picked up a broom, don't ya
know
And went back out to face my
foe
He stood his ground, eyes
fixed on me
He wouldn't back down, I
could plainly see
I brought down the broom,
hard on the ground
To my surprise, he jumped at
the sound
He turned, and awkwardly
ambled away
I'll never forget it to this very
day
I continued to steer him back
to the coup
But he stopped quite short
when we reached the stoop
He turned to me, and with one
final look
He stepped through the hole,
and into his nook
I was always nervous with him
from then on
I felt those eyes burning from
across the lawn
I told myself, he was just a
bird
Not smart or evil for this was
absurd
And gratification came, as it
should
For Christmas arrived...
...and was he ever good!

Nova Scotia Christmas Tree on its Way to Boston

A giant white spruce Christmas tree has been felled in Beech Hill in Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia and is being shipped to Boston where it will be the focal point of the annual Boston Tree Lighting Event on December 1. Every Christmas since 1971 the government of Nova Scotia has presented a giant evergreen tree to the people of Boston in appreciation for the emergency assistance they provided after the Halifax Explosion in 1917. Relief from Boston was the first to arrive the day after the explosion that killed 1,900 people and wounded another 9,000. The New Englanders were also the last to leave.

What, exactly, are the 12 days of Christmas?

The 12 days of Christmas are the 12 days that separate Christmas day on December 25 from Epiphany, which is celebrated January 6. Depending on the church, January 6 may mark Christ's baptism (the Catholic tradition), or it may mark the day that the wise men visited the baby Jesus with their gifts.

In the past, there was a tradition of giving gifts throughout the 12 days, rather than stacking them all up on the morning of December 25. That tradition, as you might imagine, has never really caught on in America! We just aren't that patient. The song, however, demonstrates that some people once stretched out their gifts (and gave some fairly elaborate gifts...) over the full 12 days.

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**HORSE AROUND A LITTLE THIS
HOLIDAY SEASON.**

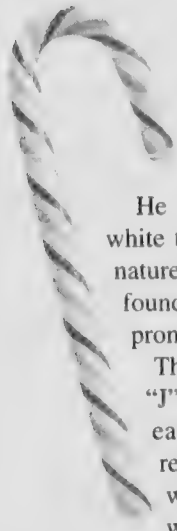


**Best
Wishes
To
All!**

McMahon Feeds N' Needs

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The Candy Cane Story



Many years ago a candy maker wanted to make a candy at Christmas time that would serve as a witness to his Christian faith. He wanted to incorporate several symbols for the birth, ministry and death of Jesus.

He began with a stick of pure white hard candy; white to symbolize the Virgin Birth and the sinless nature of Jesus; hard to symbolize the solid rock, the foundation, of the Church; firmness to represent the promise of God.

The candy maker made the candy, in the form of a "J" to represent the name of Jesus, who came to earth as our Savior. He thought it could also represent the staff of the Good Shepherd, with which He reaches down into the ditches of the world to lift out the fallen lambs who, like all sheep, have gone astray. Thinking that the candy was somewhat plain, the candy maker stained it with red stripes. He used three small stripes to show the stripes of the scourging Jesus received by which we are healed. The large red stripe was for the blood shed by Christ on the cross so that we could have the promise of eternal life.

The candy soon became known as a candy cane.

It is easier to get forgiveness than permission.



**Thanks for your year
long support!**



*John & Robyn
and all the staff!*

Stedmans V&S
Department Store

Minden



Mistletoe and Holly

Two hundred years before the birth of Christ, the Druids used mistletoe to celebrate the coming of winter. They would gather this evergreen plant that is parasitic upon other trees and used it to decorate their homes. They believed the plant had special healing powers for everything from female infertility to poison ingestion. Scandinavians also thought of mistletoe as a plant of peace and harmony. They associated mistletoe with their goddess of love, Frigga. The custom of kissing under the mistletoe probably derived from this belief. The early church banned the use of mistletoe in Christmas celebrations because of its pagan origins. Instead, church fathers suggested the use of holly as an appropriate substitute for Christmas greenery.

The Manger scene

A custom that originated in southern Europe, often referred to by its French name, crèche. This is a small model of the stable where Jesus was born, containing figures of Mary, Joseph, the infant, shepherds, farm animals, and the three wise men and their gifts. The custom is said to have been started by St. Francis of Assisi. On a Christmas Eve in 1224 he is supposed to have set up a stable in a corner of a church in his native village with real persons and animals to represent those of the first Christmas.

"CHRISTMAS"

The word comes from the Old English term Cristes maesse, meaning "Christ's mass." This was the name for the festival service of worship held on December 25 to commemorate the birth of Jesus Christ. While it is accepted that Jesus was born in the small town of Bethlehem a few miles south of Jerusalem, there is no certain information on the date of his birth, not even of the year. One reason for this uncertainty is that the stories of his birth, recorded in the New Testament books of Matthew and Luke, were written several decades after the event. And those who wrote of it gave no specific dates for the event. Also, some get offended when people call 'Christmas' xmas. However, the X in Xmas, still stands for Christ. As in the Greek language Christ is said as Xristos. Hence came the word Xmas. It was not intended to take Christ out of Christmas.

457-4576

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Wishing You A

De'LIGHT'ful Christmas



Never Forget

This poem was written by a peace-keeping soldier stationed overseas.

"IT'S CHRISTMAS DAY, ALL IS SECURE."

It was The Night Before Christmas,
He Lived All Alone,
In A One Bedroom House,
Made Of Plaster And Stone.

I Had Come Down The Chimney,
With Presents To Give,
And To See Just Who,
In This Home Did Live.

I Looked All About,
A Strange Sight I Did See,
No Tinsel, No Presents,
Not Even A Tree.

No Stocking By The Mantle,
Just Boots Filled With Sand,
On The Wall Hung Pictures,
Of Far Distant Lands.

With Medals And Badges,
Awards Of All Kinds,
A Sober Thought,
Came Through My Mind.

For This House Was Different,
It Was Dark And Dreary,
I Found The Home Of A Soldier,
Once I Could See Clearly.

The Soldier Lay Sleeping,
Silent, Alone,
Curled Up On The Floor,
In This One Bedroom Home.

The Face Was So Gentle,
The Room In Such Disorder,
Not How I Pictured,
A Canadian Soldier.

Was This The Hero,
Of Whom I'd Just Read?,
Curled Up On A Poncho,
The Floor For A Bed?

I Realized The Families,
That I Saw This Night,
Owed Their Lives To These Soldiers,
Who Were Willing To Fight.

Soon Round The World,
The Children Would Play,
And Grownups Would Celebrate,
A Bright Christmas Day.

They All Enjoyed Freedom,
Each Month Of The Year,
Because Of The Soldiers,
Like The One Lying Here.

I Couldn't Help Wonder,
How Many Lay Alone,
On A Cold Christmas Eve,
In A Land Far From Home.

The Very Thought Brought,
A Tear To My Eye,
I Dropped To My Knees,
And Started To Cry.

The Soldier Awakened,
And I Heard A Rough Voice,
"Santa, Don't Cry,
This Life Is My Choice.

I Fight For Freedom,
I Don't Ask For More,
My Life Is My God,
My Country, My Corps."

The Soldier Rolled Over,
And Drifted To Sleep,
I Couldn't Control It,
I Continued To Weep.

I Kept Watch For Hours,
So Silent And Still,
And We Both Shivered,
From The Cold Night's Chill.

Didn't Want To Leave,
On That Cold, Dark Night,
This Guardian Of Honour,
So Willing To Fight.

Then The Soldier Rolled Over,
With A Voice, Soft And Pure,
Whispered, "Carry On Santa,
It's Christmas Day, All Is Secure."

One Look At My Watch,
And I Knew He Was Right,
"Merry Christmas My Friend,
And To All A Good Night."

The 1st Christmas Card

The first Christmas greeting card is believed to have been designed in England in 1843 by an artist named John C. Horsley for a friend, Sir Henry Cole. The design showed a family party, beneath which the words "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to You" were inscribed. The practice soon became popular in all English-speaking countries and is most widespread in North America.

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Website: lauriescottmpp.com

The Many Ways To Say "Merry Christmas & Happy New Year"

English - Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Cree: Mitho Makosi Kesikansi

Danish: Glædelig Jul og godt nytår

Dutch: Vrolijk Kerstfeest en een Gelukkig

Nieuwjaar!

Egyptian - Colo sana wintom tiebeen

Finnish - Hyvää Joulua or Hauskaa Joulua -

Önnekkäistä uutta vuotta

Fijian - Me Nomuni na marau ni siga ni sucu dei na yabaki vou

French - Joyeux Noël et Bonne Année!

German - Froehliche Weihnachten und ein glückliches Neues Jahr!

Greek - Kala Christougenna Ki'eftihismenos O Kenourios Chronos

Greenlandic - Juullimi Ukiortaassamilu Pilluarit

Hawaiian - Mele Kalikimaka & Hauoli Makahiki Hou

Hebrew - Mo'adim Lesimkha. Shanah

Hindi Shubh Naya Baras

Hungarian - Kellemes karácsonyi ünnepeket és Boldog újévet!

Icelandic - Gleðileg Jól og Farsaelt Komandi ár!

Iraqi - Idah Saidan Wa Sanah Jadidah

Irish - Nollaig Shona Dhuit

Iroquois - Ojenyunyat Sungwiyadeson homungradon nagwutut & Ojenyunyat osrasay

Italian - Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo

Japanese - Shinnen omedeto. Kurisumasu Omedeto

Latin - Pax hominibus bonae voluntatis

Lebanese - Milad Saeed wa Sanaa Mubarakah

Mandarin - Kung His Hsin Nien bing Chu Shen Tan

Maltese - Nixtieqlek Milied Tajjeb u Sena Tajba

Mongolian - Zul saryn bolon shine ony mend

devshuulye

Norwegian/Nynorsk - Eg ynskjer hermed Dykk alle

ein God Jul og Godt Nyttår

Norwegian/Bokmål - God Jul og Godt Nyttår

Ojibwe (Chippewa) - Niibaa' anami'egiizhigad &

Aabita Biboon

Polish - Wesolych Swiat i Szczesliwego Nowego

Roku.

Portuguese - Boas Festas e um feliz Ano Novo

Romanian - Craciun fericit si un An Nou fericit!

Russian - Pozdrevlyayu s prazdnikom Rozhdestva i

s Novim Godom

Scots Gaelic - Nollaig chridheil agus Bliadhna mhath ur!

Serbian - Sretan Bozic. Vesela Nova Godine

Sicilian - Bon Natali e Prosperu Annu Novu !

Somali - ciid wanaagsan iyo sanad cusub oo fiican.

Slovakian - Vesele Vianoce a stastny novy rok

Spanish - Feliz Navidad y Próspero Año Nuevo

Swahili - "Krismas Njema Na Heri Za Mwaka Mpya"

Swedish - God Jul och Gott Nytt År

Tamil - Nathar Puthu Varuda Valthukkal

Thai - Suksan Wan Christmas lae Sawadee Pee Mai

Turkish - Noeliniz Ve Yeni Yiliniz Kutlu Olsun

Ukrainian - Veseloho Vam Rizdva i Shchastlyvoho Novoho

Roku!

Vietnamese - Chuc Mung Giang Sinh - Chuc Mung Tan Nien

Welsh - Nadolig LLawen a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda

Yiddish - Gute Vaynakhtn un a Gut Nay Yor

Zulu - Sinifesela Ukhisimusi Omuhle Nonyaka Omusha

Onempumelelo

**In Hawaiian
it's Mele
Kalikimaka &
Hauoli
Makahiki Hou**

**In Iroquois it's
Ojenyunyat
Sungwiyadeson**



**During
The Holidays**

We take great happiness in greeting
all our special friends and customers
this season. May your holiday be
filled with warmth and joy.

from the Staff and Management of
**EMMERSON LUMBER LTD. &
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building centres



**Christmas
Blessings**

May He whose birth
we celebrate
bless you
all with
true happiness
and love.

*Mary, Andy
Danielle, Katrina*

Kitchens Etcetera
183 Highland St. Haliburton

Important Dates in Christmas History

1510 - A decorated Christmas tree recorded at Riga, Latvia.
 1610 - Tinsel invented in Germany.
 1660 - Record of a tree lit with candles in Germany.
 1773 - Santa Claus started appearing in the American press as "St. A Claus"
 1800 - Tree ornaments being manufactured in Europe.
 1819 - Popular sketch by Krimmel released depicting an American family with a Christmas tree on the table.
 1822 - German merchants living in England have decorated trees in their homes.
 1823 - Clement Moore, an American, writes A Visit From Saint Nicholas for his family (now known as "Twas the Night Before Christmas")-published in 1848
 1833 - Red poinsettias sold in Philadelphia
 1841 - Christmas crackers being manufactured in England.
 1843 - Charles Dickens writes A Christmas Carol.
 1846 - Illustration London News publishes a picture of the Royal Family gathered around a Christmas tree. The picture helps popularize the tabletop Christmas tree.
 1860-1880 - Illustrator Thomas Nast, introduced a rotund Santa for Christmas issues of Harper's magazine. He added details like Santa's workshop at the North Pole and Santa's list of the good and bad children of the world.
 1880 - German glass ornaments sold in Woolworth's.
 1882 - First electric Christmas tree lights sold in New York.
 1892 - Wire hook for hanging tree ornaments is patented in the United States.
 1896 - The T. Eaton Company produces its first Christmas catalogue.
 1905 - Santa Claus arrives by wagon at the T. Eaton Company store in Toronto.
 1917 - J.C. Hall (of Hallmark) imported fancy decorated envelope linings from France to sell as "gift dressing".
 1923 - Pink poinsettias produced
 1931 - Santa Claus was shown not as an elf, but as human-size in a series of illustrations for Coca-Cola advertisements introduced in 1931. In modern versions of the Santa Claus legend, only his toyshop workers were elves.
 1932 - The song "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" was written
 1939 - Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer created by Robert May for an American department store as a Christmas promotion.
 1947 - The song "Here Comes Santa Claus" was written.
 1947 - The film "Miracle on 34th Street" was released.
 2006 - The total cost of all 364 gifts mentioned in the song 12 days of Christmas is \$60,307.18 (or \$93,187.66, if purchased on the Internet)

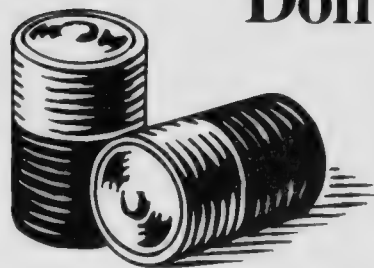


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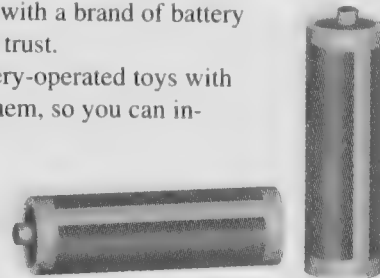
Don't Forget The Batteries



As you shop for family and friends this holiday

season, don't forget that many of this year's hottest gifts are battery-powered. Whether it's a PDA, a portable MP3 jukebox or a talking toy cash register, be sure to power this holiday's must-have gifts with a brand of battery you can trust.

Don't forget to stuff battery-operated toys with batteries before you wrap them, so you can instantly capture children's excitement on camera as they tear open the presents and immediately begin to play. Also, ensure you have an ample supply of premium-quality batteries on hand for long-lasting, reliable power in the presents they'll play with again and again.



You've All Been Good

Thanks For Your Patronage

**Best Wishes For A Happy
 Holiday Season From All
 Of Us At..**



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Dining and Entertainment

Where are the Now?

Peter Billingsley...
Ralphie from The
Christmas Story

Name: Peter Billingsley

Born: April 16, 1971, New York, New York

Claim to Fame: Peter is probably most noted for his role of Ralphie in a "A Christmas Story"

Remember Ralphie's numerous requests for a genuine Red Ryder B-B gun that were repeatedly greeted with "You'll shoot your eye out." I just love that movie. But Peter actually got his start when he was nine years old on the TV series "Real People". He was there to provide the children's angle on the show.

Family Life: Great-grandnephew of Stork Club impresario Sherman Billingsley (his maternal great-grandfather was Fred Billingsley who was Sherman's brother). Brother of Melissa Michaelsen and Neil Billingsley (both actors)..



Info: Attended school at Phoenix Country Day School. It was K-12th grade and only about 150 kids went there.

Peter went to this school along with his sister Melissa. Both of them were very nice and sweet kids. Not like so many others who were so snobby

This was right before "A Christmas Story" came out, and his sister was actually more popular at the time.

Where Is He Now: He is now enjoying the success of directing, writing, and editing many music videos and short form programs.

Peter co-produced "Zathura: which Jon Favreau directed. That's the third thing with Jon that Peter has produced.

A working actor since he was just a child, Peter Billingsley has achieved success and accolades both behind the cameras as well as in front of them. The highly successful child actor turned producer recently received an Emmy Award nomination as co-executive producer on the critically acclaimed show "Dinner for Five" (2001) with Jon Favreau, now in its fourth season.

Billingsley is currently serving as executive producer on Universal Picture's romantic comedy The Break-Up (2006). The film stars Vince Vaughn and Jennifer Aniston in an unconventional love story that begins where most romantic comedies end.

Trivia: Peter played Messy Marvin in a series of commercials for Hershey's chocolate syrup in the early '80s.

His best friend is Jon Favreau.

Became best friends with Vince Vaughn after they shared the screen in an "After School Special".

Was number 63 on vh1's "100 Greatest Kid Stars"

Internet Rumor About Him: That he died a penniless, drug addict and is buried in Potters Field. All false.



The Haliburton Legion Branch 129

New Year's Eve Party



December 31st
(Upstairs in the Hall)

featuring

The TORNADO'S



Tickets - \$25.00 Per Person

Hot & Cold Buffet!!
Prizes!!

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Music Notes BY **GREG J. ROE**

The Communicator is pleased to introduce a new column for all you music lovers out there. Greg Roe will be filling us in on some interesting music facts from time to time. We hope you enjoy this new column that will explore the gamut of music in every genre.

Rock and Roll's First Chart Topper

The record that holds the title of being the first Rock and Roll song, may always be open for debate. However, among most music scholars, "Rocket 88," by Jackie Brenston is regarded as the first Rock and Roll record.

The record that became the first Rock and Roll song to reach number one on the charts, however, is a matter of statistics. In 1955, Bill Haley's recording of (We're Gonna) Rock Around the Clock hit the top of the American record charts and repeated the feat around the world. The song, written in 1952, was originally recorded by Sonny Dae and his Knights and then in 1954 by Bill Haley and the Comets as the 'B' side of Thirteen Women (and Only One Man in Town).

Although it did chart, it was considered a commercial disappointment, until it was used under the opening credits of the 1955 movie Blackboard Jungle, starring Glenn Ford. Legend has it that Ford borrowed several of his son's records and took them to the studio in order to find a song that the youth of 1955 were listening to. Rock Around the Clock was chosen and it shot to # 1.

The theme of 'rocking around the clock' comes from older Blues tunes and has a much more risqué innuendo, than Haley's image of teenagers dancing the night away!

Rock Around the Clock can be heard in the opening of TV's, Happy Days, has been recorded on over 500 labels and has sold an estimated 35 million copies. It has won the Grammy Hall of Fame Award and is said to be playing somewhere in the world every minute of the day!

Rock's first # 1 hit and the song that Dick Clark called, "the national anthem of Rock and Roll," is now 54 years old and still alive and ticking.

You Might Be a Bad Cook If...

Your microwave display reads "TILT!"
 You know dinner is ready when the smoke alarm goes off.
 Your dog goes to the neighbors' to eat.
 Leftover crumbs make a great replacement for kitty litter.
 Your kids know what exactly peas porridge in a crock pot nine days old tastes like.
 Your family automatically heads for the dinner table every time they hear a fire truck siren.
 Your family seems really interested in going to that restaurant that always has trouble passing the health inspection.
 If the EPA requires that all your garbage cans be marked with large bright red "biohazard" symbols.
 When you BBQ two of your kids hold water guns and the third has the phone with 911 on speed-dial.
 Pest control companies keep pestering you, wanting to buy and patent your recipe for candy Christmas cookies.
 The smoke alarm beeps if you even walk near the stove.
 Your family buys Roloids, Pepto Bismal, and Tums in bulk.
 Your homemade bread loaf can be used as a door stop.
 The last time you tried to make toast the kitchen caught on fire.
 Your apple pie bubbled over and ate the enamel off the bottom of the oven.
 You make tuna noodle broccoli surprise for your roommate and the surprise is that it glows in the dark!
 Your tuna noodle broccoli surprise melts plastic and silverware.
 You used three boxes of scouring pads, a bottle of Drano and a crowbar, but that macaroni and cheese still won't let go of the pan!
 You look in a cookbook to find out how to boil water.
 You call your mother to ask how long to boil cabbage to make cole slaw.
 If anyone has ever broken a tooth while eating your homemade yogurt.
 The family pets are no where to be found during dinner.

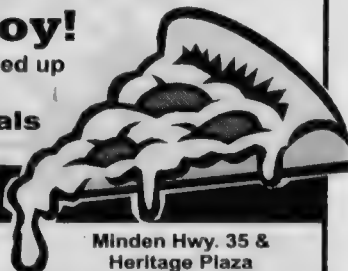
Have a HUGE SLICE of Christmas Joy!

Hope your Christmas is served up with all the toppings!

Call for Party Specials
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From the Management and Staff



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What's Happening New Year's Eve

Minden Legion

If you are looking for an evening out in Minden, why not join everyone at the Minden Legion for their annual New Year's Eve Party.

Come out and enjoy DJ tunes by Bob Clark. You will also be treated to a cold midnight buffet and party favors.

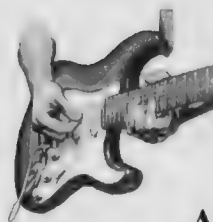
The cost of the tickets is \$15 per person or \$25 per couple. For more information, or to purchase your tickets, contact the Minden Legion at 286-4541. Everyone is welcome.

Haliburton Legion:

Last New Year's Eve was a great success and this year promises to be even better.

Come out and ring in the New Year with "The Tornados" (those of you who have heard this band before know how good they are). The evening's festivities include lots of door prizes, spot dances, party favours and a hot and cold buffet!!

Tickets are on sale at the branch for \$25 per person. For more information on the New Year's Eve bash, please call 457-2571. Everyone is welcome.



The Music Scene

What's Happening Locally

At The Hair Lounge

Want a great way to say Merry Christmas? Give the gift of music – there are two great concerts coming up that anyone would love to receive tickets for.

Brooke Miller & Rose Cousins will be appearing at the Hair Lounge on Saturday, January 27, 2007

At 8:00pm (doors open at 7:00pm). Tickets are \$20.00 For more information about these two great artists visit their websites at www.brookemiller.ca and www.rose Cousins.com

Johnny Burke & Steve Piticco will be appearing at the Hair Lounge on Saturday, February 24, 2007 at 8:00pm (doors open at 7:00pm). Tickets are also \$20.00. For more information about these two artists visit their websites at:

www.johnnyburke.com and www3.sympatico.ca/spiticco/

Get your tickets early!!! For reservations call 705.457.7587 or 705.489.1963 or email markchristiano@rogers.com

At The Northwood Inn

The music scene is always hot at the Northwood Inn. Appearing this holiday season is: December 23 - The Cronics; December 29th - Country Band - Lonestar Oasis, December 30th and New Years Eve - Laganza is performing!! You won't want to miss a second!!

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AVAILABLE AT
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CANADIAN LEGION
BRANCH 636 MINDEN

\$25 PER PAIR
\$15 SINGLE

Doors
open
at 8 pm

EVERYONE WELCOME

Inside Passage Links Haliburton and Burnaby, B.C.

The Inside Passage in B.C. has for generations been a place of refuge for Coastal inhabitants and travellers. For Dan Hill, Ruth Walmsley and Tim Bartoo *Inside Passage* also represents a journey of the heart - one which continues to be a source of inspiration, challenge and growth. Some listeners might call it East or West Coast folk. Some might say it has a Celtic ring to it. One thing for sure, it's easy-listening folk music and it will warm your heart. The songs on this self-titled CD weave a musical tapestry that reflects the group's love for the land, the sea, and one another.



Dan became Ruth and Tim's neighbour in 2002. Shortly thereafter Dan performed a few songs at a community music event, and so began the meeting of some kindred musical spirits. The three of them began getting together regularly for jams and the occasional appearance at Coffee Houses in and around Vancouver. Since then, they have been blending their musical talents writing, arranging and performing their own original songs, as well as favourite covers. They have a similar musical aesthetic, love of harmonies, and a general passion for singing and playing music. These qualities are evident as one listens to the CD, as well as in their live performances.

In 2004, the group settled on the name *Inside Passage*. Early in 2005 they acquired some recording equipment and the three of them undertook the recording and mixing of their first CD of original music. Tim's experience as an audio engineer contributed significantly to the group's ability to produce a CD with a professionally tuned "home-grown" sound. The completion of the CD was celebrated on Nov. 4, 2006 at a couple of lively CD release parties, held simultaneously in Burnaby, B.C. and Ingoldsby.

Inside Passage has quite a strong connection to Haliburton

Highlands. Dan was born and raised in Lochlin, and no matter how far away he has travelled (his career has taken him to many continents) one of his favourite ways to reconnect with his roots here is to visit the family sugar shack. Ruth's connection with Haliburton began around 2000 when her father, Omar Walmsley, moved here along with his wife, Liz Doble. During the five years that Omar and Liz lived in Haliburton, Ruth and Tim and their two

children, Shaun and Thea, enjoyed many visits with them at their house in the village as well as at their cottage on Glamour Lake. In 2005 Ruth, Tim and Dan combined their family visits with a gig at the Haliburton Outdoors Association Hatchery, so some lucky folks in the



Highlands have already had a chance to hear them at a live performance.

CD's are available for only \$15.00 at Golden Stationers and County Sign and Display in Minden, also at The Photo Shop in Haliburton. If you find these places are sold out, just call Dan's Mom and Dad, Keith and Mildred Hill at 286-1897. What a great stocking gift!



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Yummy Christmas**

from everyone at

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AND DELI**



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Haliburton
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Christmas Thanks

We would like to extend our sincere thanks for your business over the past year. May all of you have a joyful holiday season

Hope to see you next year!

Janice Craig & Staff

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Main Street
Downtown Minden

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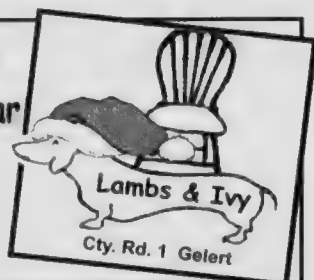
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& Happy New Year

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Norm & Louy Weber

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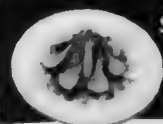
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FULL
MENU

A NEW TWIST ON TURKEY ...

Deep-fry a turkey??? Why would you do that? You'll be amazed by the flavour and juiciness of the meat, and by the speed in which your Turkey cooks. Plus it's fun and will definitely impress your friends! By following a few simple steps, you can try this unique method at home.

For best results, choose a fresh Turkey weighing less than 15 pounds.

If you are using a frozen turkey, be sure that the turkey is totally thawed before immersing in the oil. If the turkey is still frozen, the oil can spill over the top and can be potentially dangerous.

First, remove turkey from wrapper. Rinse with cool water and be sure to remove giblets and neck from the cavities.

If marinating, inject or season at this point. Place bird into another large bag, and return to the fridge for 4 to 24 hours.

Before cooking, ensure that the bird is dry by patting with paper towel, both inside and out. Excess moisture on or in the bird will cause the oil to splatter. **DO NOT STUFF YOUR TURKEY.**

Turkey Deep-Fryers are available for purchase at a number of stores. A large canning pot could also be used over a burner. In addition, the sides and handles of the fryers can become dangerously hot. It is recommended to use the appliances only outdoors and never on wooden decks.

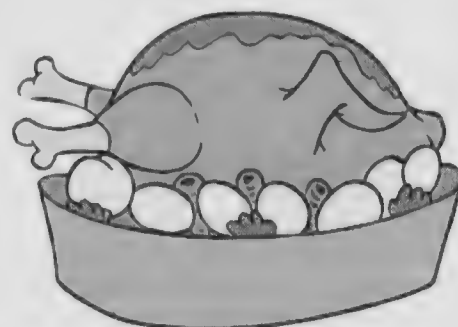
Preheat oil to 400 degrees F (200 degrees C). The optimal temperature for deep-frying is 375 degrees F (180 degrees C), if the temperature is not hot enough; the Turkey will absorb more oil and may taste greasy. It is best to use a thermometer to ensure accuracy. The temperature of the oil will drop appropriately as the cold Turkey is immersed. Canola oil is recommended, as it can easily withstand these temperatures.

Using oven mitts and long-handled utensils **CAREFULLY** lower the Turkey into the oil. The turkey should be totally immersed in the oil to ensure even cooking. Cover with lid to help maintain temperature.

A 10 lb turkey takes approximately 35 minutes to cook. To check for doneness, insert a meat thermometer into the thigh. The optimum temperature is 170 degrees F (80 degrees C).

At this point, remove your golden brown Turkey from the oil, ensuring that oil is drained from the cavity. Place on a rack and cover with foil. Let the Turkey stand for at least 20 minutes to allow it to finish cooking and also to allow the juices to solidify. This is a very important procedure ... don't rush and skip it.

Your completed Turkey should be tender and juicy. Enjoy!
Source: Saskatchewan Turkey Producers Marketing Board.



To Roast or Deep Fry?

The Gravity Coffee House and Cafe Well Worth the Climb

by George Farrell

On my imaginary "Taste of the County" tour, the Gravity Coffee House and Café would be one of my top choices for lunch. The Gravity is located at 2 Newcastle Street in beautiful downtown Minden, right next to the Rockcliffe.

The Gravity occupies a heritage building, which is perched up on a little cliff which gives diners on the outside patio, in warmer months, a great view down Bobcaygeon Road to the river. The fact that it is on a cliff, and accessed by a fairly formidable set of stairs is unfortunate for anyone with mobility issues, or who is in a wheelchair. However, that is the only negative thing that I can find to say about Gravity, and even that they have cleverly worked to their advantage in a way, because if you are healthy enough to walk up the stairs, the great food you will find at the end of your climb perfectly reflects your healthy state of mind and body.

The owner of the Gravity Coffee House is Gerry Wills, and he and his daughter Lila Sweet run the place pretty much themselves, with the help of assistants in the busy periods. Gerry is an open-faced man with a ready smile who likes to engage in conversation. One gets the impression that he likes people, and that he also cares a great deal about how his business is presented.

Gerry has a long history in the food business. For many years he owned and operated the cafeteria in Nelvana Studios in Toronto. Nelvana was the internationally acclaimed production house of such cartoon classics as the Care Bears, and Beetlejuice. They also produced the series T and T, starring Mr T. In fact Mr. T. Loved Gerry's muffins so much that Gerry became know on set as Mr T's Muffin Man, and, laughs Gerry, "If he didn't get his six muffins a day there'd be hell to pay."

In 1990 Gerry opened a restaurant in the Dominican Republic, which he still owns and pays visits to several times a year, to make sure everything is running smoothly. As if two restaurants weren't enough, Gerry also runs the Gravity Snack Bar on Wards Island in Toronto, during the summer months. But back to the evolution of our own Gravity. "I came to the Highlands because I have friends up here, and I became enchanted. I found out that

there were as many weird people like me up here as anywhere," he laughs. "But it was really the quality of life for me, my daughter Lila and her child Daya, who is 13 and going to Archie Stouffer School. I basically came to retire," explains Gerry. "I used to come

up here to 2 Newcastle when Carole Miles (now Carol Simmons) had her tea room and antique store here. I came for the tea and to buy some antiques, and to have a sandwich, and I really loved it. I remember telling Carol I would love a place like this. Lo and behold one day I saw the sale sign."

"I bought the building and really didn't know what I was going to do with it," says Gerry. "But I started renovating. The coffee house idea came from Huntsville of all places. I don't think I had ever even been to Huntsville before, but when I was there I went

to a place called the Bean, where I was introduced to Reunion Island products. Reunion Island is basically a coffee wholesaling



Gerry and daughter Lila Sweet

Gravity Coffee cont'd... pg. 58...




Holiday Greetings

We're happy to have this opportunity to express our gratitude and offer our very best wishes to all of you at this joyous time of the year. Thanks!

Lynda Easton

Still need that last minute gift... We Can Help! Visit our gift shop! We've got everything you need for the Holidays

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Gravity Coffee House Offers Warm Feel With Soft Colour Highlighted by Unusual Art and Artifacts

... from pg. 57

outfit. They sell all types of premium and rare coffees, including free trade and organic brands. That set the tone, and gave me a focus. I had my muffins down, so now we had coffee and muffins," he states. "Over time a natural, whole food menu evolved."

Before giving you a run-down of some menu items, it's important to get across the feel and atmosphere of the Gravity, for not only does it perfectly reflect the menu, but it also reflects the cerebral aspect of any good culinary experience. Gerry's renovations have given fruit to a very warm feel, with soft colours highlighted by unusual art and artifacts, that somehow gives off the feeling of an old coffee house from the 60's, while managing to maintain the old country charm of the heritage building that it is. There's a country feel, with a bit of sophisticated hipness. There's also a tropical air to the place, reflective perhaps of the time Gerry spends in the D.R. So the initial reaction upon entering from outside is something foreign, yet familiar. It is quite small inside, with cozy and comfortable being the words that most quickly spring to mind. It's a good space to be in. But wait, there's more regarding the



tone of this place, and it's the music. Now I know many of you readers are fans of country or good old rock and roll, but you won't find much of either in the Gravity. The emphasis instead is on blues, jazz, reggae, world music, and folk. The music is never too loud, it's always just right volume-wise, and it consists of artists familiar and new, and I seldom come away without inquiring as to the name of a band or vocalist unfamiliar to me. So, having established the somewhat eclectic nature of the ambience, let's

talk about what's on the menu.

Well where to start? "First off," Gerry points out, "It's a natural food menu, incorporating lots of veggie dishes. "Our specialty is our grilled sandwiches called crushers, and then there's our roasted vegetables, which make great sandwiches and wraps." There's a home made soup of the day, with a cornmeal muffin for \$6.95, chili con carne topped with shredded cheddar and sour cream, served with your choice of bread (I love the sunflower seed rye), for \$7.95. There's a vegetarian chili, and a variety of salads. The wraps are great, and include your choice of hummus, roasted veggies, cheese, tuna or turkey, and range from \$8.95 to \$9.95. Sandwiches on terrific breads and crushers are in the same general price range. The Gravity serves only top quality food products, and the servings are generous. For dessert or snacks there are the muffins, fresh fruit yoghurt smoothies, Belgian chocolates and truffles. Did I mention the coffees? Some of the very best selection, and Cappuccinos and lattes to satisfy that special coffee craving. There is now a huge line of premium fine loose teas. You can actually drink the exact same kind of tea that the Queen drinks. "Tea and coffee houses have always been separate," says Gerry. "But I've decided to meld them together with the Belgian chocolates, specialty foods, and food baskets."

One new venture for the Gravity is the recent hook-up with the Hair Lounge in Carnarvon. "We're going to provide food and beverage service for their concerts and open stage evenings,"

Gravity Coffee cont'd... pg. 59...

Wishing Everyone A Fun Filled Holiday!!



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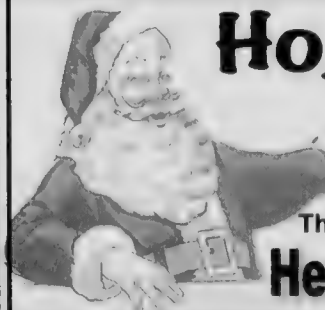
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Ho, Ho, Ho

and a Merry Christmas
from all of us to all of you!
Thank you for your patronage

Henwood's Variety

Gravity Coffee House cont'd...

... from pg. 58

beams Gerry proudly. In the future Gerry would like to expand the business and see it grow with the growth of the community. In the back of his mind too is a new concept of a wine bar and bistro, something which would be a great addition to Minden.

Now this is all well and good, but Gerry would be the first to admit that the Gravity depends not only on the one in the kitchen, which is where he prefers to reside, but also on the person out front who is meeting the people, getting their food, and remembering their names. This is where Gerry's daughter Lila comes in. She is the face of the Gravity. "I got my start through Dad," says Lila. "He totally showed me the ropes-showed me how to use the cash register, and all those types of things. I worked in the kitchen at Nelvana since I was 14. I also managed Dad's snack bar on Wards Island for two years, and I got certified as an Italian Espresso bartender in Toronto. I guess I'm the resident coffee expert, and I helped him set this place up. I think of myself as the official taste tester and I'm really involved in our product development. I'm back now after two and a half years away. I came back because of a not-so-simple twist of fate. I never thought I'd come back, but after spending a



few months here again I realized it's a really rich place for what's happening in our lives. There's a true community support system, and now I go rock climbing, I'm part of the Out Loud Women's Choir, and I go kayaking and hiking."

"I'm all about customer service," Lila goes on to explain. "I'm the hostess, and Dad is Super Cook. Our client base is people looking for gourmet healthy food. We serve our local loyal business owners, but now we also have professionals driving from Haliburton a couple of times a week. We number many health professionals among our clients; people in the health business. There are chiropractors, massage therapists, fitness teachers, yoga instructors and health practitioners. We will customize everything to individual tastes if required, and I like to remember people's likes and dislikes, and I've learned a smile goes a long, long way. I have to say that we're really happy here, it's such a great atmosphere."



There's a good, healthy (there's that word again), broad mix of people who frequent the Gravity. It is a sort of grown up place where you can go to get away, and feel good about doing it. Oh, and the Gravity is equipped with a wireless internet connection which is

offered to customers free of charge. So get connected, eat and drink deliciously, listen to some great tunes, and enjoy your stay in the Gravity Coffee House and Café, a unique Highlands experience.

The winter hours of operation are Tuesday to Saturday, 11-3. To talk to Gerry or Lila call 286-4804.

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Eat in or Take out**

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everyone a
Very Merry Christmas
and
all the Best
in 2007!"

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MOON

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www.moonshadowswinery.com

Haliburton County Wine Makers Up For Awards... You Can Help Them Win by Voting!!

It's probably safe to say that most people don't associate Haliburton with wine making – our terrain is undoubtedly beautiful, but the weather is a little more challenging than in Tuscany or Provence. Nevertheless, two Haliburton wine makers have recently been honored in a variety of ways for their unique wines and professional accomplishments.

Both Fielding Estate Winery and Moon Shadows Estate Winery have been nominated by the Ontario Wine Review, a website devoted to Ontario Wines, for their Crystal Cork Awards. Moon Shadows' unique "Strawberry Shortcake" wine was nominated in the Best Fruit Wine category while Fielding Estates' 2004 Riesling Semi-Dry was nominated in the Best White Wine category.

Fielding Estate Winery

Ken and Marg Fielding, long time master franchisees for the Subway chain, founded their Fielding Estate Winery about 5 years ago in Beamsville, and have seen their products go from strength to strength. Their son Curtis and his spouse Heidi



www.fieldingwines.com

operate the winery on a daily basis, while Ken and Marg oversee the operation from their base here in Haliburton. And in addition to the Ontario Wine Review honour, the Grape Growers of Ontario, following their Annual Wine Tasting event at Queen's Park in November, announced that wines from Fielding Estates had been selected to be the official wine of the Ontario Legislature for 2006-2007. Fielding's 2005 Riesling Semi-Dry and their 2004 Cabernet Franc will be making our hard-working politicians' lives just that much more pleasant over the

coming year. But it's a real honour, and as Heidi Fielding points out, "it's the first time since 1999 that both wines have been awarded from one winery."

For further information, and to order Fielding Estate wines, go to their website at

Moon Shadows Estate Winery

Eric and Carol Robertson founded their Moon Shadows Estate Winery just last year to compliment their Maple Moon retail store. But their research into fruit and sweet wines was underway many years ago when they decided to try and use their maple flavours in

Wine Contest cont'd... pg. 61...



**Gravity
Coffee House & Café**

705-286-4804 Open Tues - Sat 11 - 3

Olde Main St., Minden

at the corner of Bobcaygeon Rd. & Newcastle St.

Wholesome Lunches

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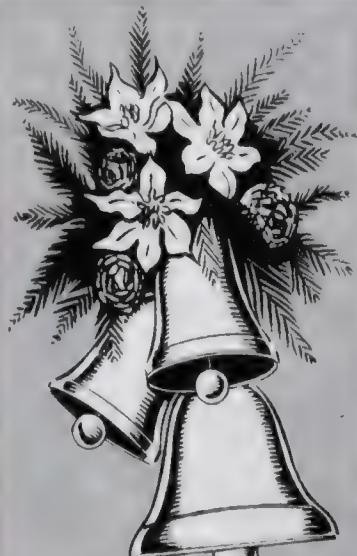
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Holiday Greetings

We're happy to have this opportunity to express our gratitude and offer our very best wishes to all of you at this joyous time of year.

Thank you!

Steve, Jane & Staff

**Haliburton
SUBWAY**

Wine Contest cont'd...

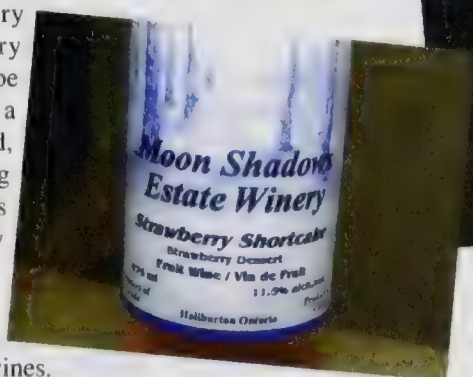
... from pg. 60

wine. They succeeded, for sure, and now produce a wide variety of both sweet and dry wines for practically every occasion. "It was really nice to be honoured in this way, which is a kind of people's choice award, when we're really just starting out," says Eric, "and it confirms the popularity of our Strawberry Shortcake Wine."

And here's the best part: you too can vote for the winning wines.

For further information about the contest, and the wines, go to www.ontariowinereview.com and follow the links to the Crystal Cork awards. Or simply email "the Grape Guy", Michael Pinkus, at Michael@ontariowinereview.com with "OWR Crystal Cork Awards" in the subject line and list your choices.

The Maple Moon store and Winery are located at 12953 Highway 118 just west of Haliburton are open from 10 am until 6 pm Monday to Saturday, and from 10 am until 4 pm on Christmas Eve. You can reach Maple Moon at 705 455-9999.



Pictured opposite page is the Ken and Marg Fielding (top) of Fielding Estate Winery; and (below) Eric & Carol Robertson of Moon Shawdows Estate Winery. On this page is the Fielding wine above and Moon Shadows to the left



TRACEY'S
BISTRO & GRILL



Presents

A New Years Eve CASINO NIGHT

Casino entertainment includes poker, roulette, blackjack and slot machines

Sunday December 31st 7:00 p.m.

The evening includes:

A three course meal Party favours
Champagne toast at midnight

Door prizes, wine tasting and a midnight buffet

\$99.00 pp including tax and gratuity or \$185.00 per couple

Contact Tracey @ 457-2795 or email
traceysbistrogrill@bellnet.ca

Game chips cannot be redeemed for cash but can be
redeemed at the Bistro store for great gifts.

A portion of the proceeds benefits Cottage Dreams



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Happy Holidays from the management
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Thank you also to our entire staff for all
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www.wigamoginn.com
457-2000 Wigamog Rd. Haliburton

Casino Night In Haliburton - What Better Way To Spend New Years Eve - You'll Be Helping A Great Cause

Tracey McMullen, owner of Tracey's Bistro and Grill and Seana O'Neill, Founder and President of Cottage Dreams are pooling their formidable energies and talents to produce a New Year's Eve Casino Night at Tracey's featuring an evening of professional gambling, great food, champagne, and just plain fun.

"We're going to have roulette, wheels of fortune, poker and blackjack tables, and slot machines," says Tracey, "and the dealers will all be professionals. This is going to be just like the real thing." Except, of course, that patrons won't be able to take away any cash, but they can convert their hard-won winnings into a great array of donated gifts at the "Bistro Store" once the evening is over. And a portion of all proceeds will go directly to Cottage Dreams, the innovative and fast-growing charity founded by Seana O'Neill and based in Haliburton that provides a precious cottage experience to families who are celebrating cancer survival.

"This has been another year of growth for us," says Seana, "and as the program reaches more and more families, the need for sponsorship and donors becomes even more important." Individual cottage owners donate their cottage to Cottage Dreams so that

families with cancer survivors can take a healing week away from the daily cares and challenges of every day life and renew their spirit, and often their health. The testimonials of these families are truly inspiring, and prove just how life affirming the cottage experience can be. But as the demand grows, so does the need for further sponsorship, more staff, and more fundraising events. Seana's just announced that next year Cottage Dreams will host the very first charity golf tournament to take place at Wyndance, the much anticipated Greg Norman designed Clublinks course in Uxbridge due to open in July, 2007.



The Casino Event at Tracey's will be a chance for Haliburtonians to ring in the New Year with style, good company, great food, and help a terrific cause. Tickets are \$99 per person, or \$185 per couple, including all taxes and gratuities, and includes a three course meal, party favours, a champagne toast at midnight, door prizes, a wine tasting and a midnight buffet. And, of course, a chance to have some fun at the tables, win some great prizes, and help out Cottage Dreams.

For tickets and further information please contact Tracey at 705 457-2795, or email her at traceysbistrogrill@bellnet.ca. Or just drop in at the restaurant on Haliburton's main street and inquire.

For further information about Cottage Dreams, check out their website at www.cottagedreams.org.

Northwood Inn

OPEN ALL YEAR!

457-1710

www.northwood-inn.com

email: info@northwood-inn.com

Where Fun Lives!!

Sat Dec 23rd

"The Cronics"

Fri Dec 29th

"Lonestar Oasis"

(Country)

Sat Dec 30th

"Laganza"

NEW YEARS EVE

Sun Dec 31st - "Laganza"

Christmas Closure OEYC Minden & Haliburton

Our last day open before we break for Christmas will be Wednesday December 20th. The centers will re-open on Monday January 8th. The staff of the Ontario Early Years Centres wishes you and your family a safe and happy holiday.

The Children's Learning Centre in Minden will be closed from Dec. 25 to Jan. 1, 2007. We will reopen Jan. 2 to Jan. 5 for regular hours. The School-age program will be at the Day Care- not the school for this week.

Turkey Cooking... Why Is The Meat Red or Pink?

I've cooked my turkey to the proper endpoint temperature as you've recommended, but it still appears to have a red or pink coloration. Why is that?

Red or pink coloration is caused by the age and sex of the bird, dietary components, processing techniques or the ventilation system of the oven used for cooking. Red or pink colouring does not affect the taste or safety of the product as long as the meat has been

cooked to the proper temperature. (ie. when a meat thermometer in the inner thigh reads 180° F (82°C) for a stuffed turkey or 170° F (77°C) for an unstuffed turkey).

Sleepy After Turkey?? Here's Why...



Some people think they feel sleepy after a roast turkey dinner. Turkey contains many of our essential dietary amino acids. One is called L-Tryptophan. One of the first amino acids to appear as a supplement in the early marketing wave of exotic nutrients, it was billed as a natural sleep aid. It is involved in the production of serotonin, a neurotransmitter. Serotonin may reduce certain pain reactions and have a tranquilizing effect. Starchy foods such as potatoes and stuffing are high in carbohydrates which contain L-Tryptophan.



Purchase a season pass for
Highlands Summer Festival 2007
at the Special Holiday price of \$70
and you'll receive 4 shows for the price of 3.

\$70

or Our New "Five Pack" Offer
5 Shows for the price of 4 **\$90**

(offers available only until January 15, 2007)

Includes:

Three Dramatic Presentations: & both concerts:

the musical 'The Fantasticks' classical music
the comedy 'The Kitchen Witches' with Melissa and Friends
the touching 'On Golden Pond' Folk Singer David Archibald

Five ways to purchase your Highlands Summer Festival 2007 Season Pass

MAIL: Complete the coupon below and mail it, along with your cheque for \$70 or \$90 or VISA / MC / AMEX number and expiry date to: Highlands Summer Festival, Box 938, Haliburton ON K0M 1S0

E-MAIL: your order to the Festival Box Office, tickets@highlandssummerfestival.on.ca including your VISA / MC / AMEX number and expiry date, telephone number and mailing address.

IN PERSON: Purchase your season pass at Highlands Summer Festival retailers: Kitchens Etc in Haliburton and The Storeroom in Minden

PHONE: Call Highlands Summer Festival Box Office at (705) 457-9933. Have your VISA / MC / AMEX card available for faster processing of your order

Fax: Completing the coupon below and sending it to the Festival Box Office at (705) 457-2534

Highlands Summer Festival 2007 Holiday Season Pass Special

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VISA/MC/AMEX NUMBER _____ EXPIRY DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____

Note: Offer Expires January 15, 2007
Highlands Summer Festival Limited

Number of 4 production passes \$70
Number of 5 production passes \$90



What To Do With The Turkey Now That Dinner Is Over...

After cooking, keep the turkey hot, above 140°F (60°C) or refrigerate below 40°F (4°C). DO NOT LEAVE AT ROOM TEMPERATURE FOR MORE THAN 2 HOURS!!!

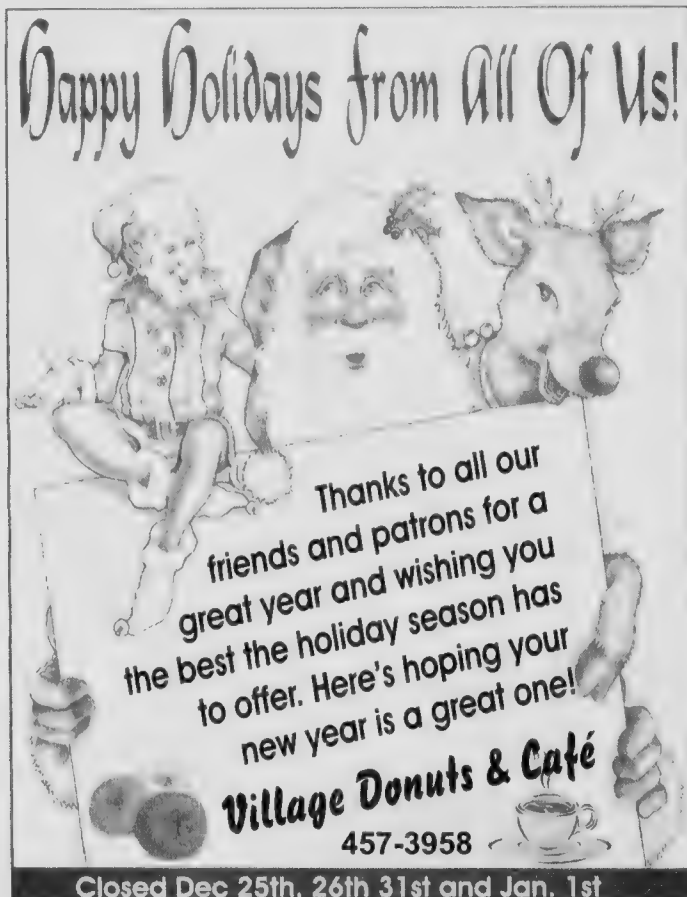
Storing Cooked Turkey:

Cooked turkey can be stored in a covered container, plastic bag or aluminium foil for up to 4 days in the refrigerator or up to 3 months in the freezer.

What To Do With Any Leftovers

For the best quality of turkey leftovers, wrap well in small packages, or put in shallow plastic containers. Be sure to use refrigerated cooked turkey within three to four days. Turkey can be frozen covered in broth in a covered container for up to 6 months. Or freeze turkey slices or pieces in airtight packages and use within 4 months.

For every action, there is an equal & opposite government program.



Happy Holidays from All Of Us!

Thanks to all our friends and patrons for a great year and wishing you the best the holiday season has to offer. Here's hoping your new year is a great one!

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Quick Turkey Recipes for the Leftovers

Turkey Bruschetta:

Brush slices of Italian bread with olive oil, top with minced garlic and toast in the oven. Spoon on a combination of turkey, shredded mozzarella cheese, and chopped fresh basil. Broil until cheese melts.

Hot and Spicy Turkey Chili:

Combine sautéed green pepper and onion with turkey, canned tomatoes, canned red kidney beans and a touch of crushed red pepper. Top with corn chips.

Turkey Grape Salad:

Combine turkey with halved green grapes, toasted sliced almonds, sliced green onions, orange zest and light mayonnaise.

Turkey Stir-Fry:

Stir turkey into stir-fried broccoli florets and red bell pepper strips. Add minced garlic, fresh ginger, soy sauce and a sprinkle of sesame oil.

Turkey and Spinach Tetrizzini:

Combine turkey with cooked spaghetti, chopped sun-dried tomatoes, a thawed package of frozen creamed spinach, minced garlic, and Parmesan cheese. Bake until heated through.

Breaded Turkey, Italian-style:

Dip turkey slices in beaten egg, coat with fine breadcrumbs, and brown in melted butter. Transfer to baking dish and top with spaghetti sauce, shredded mozzarella cheese, chopped mushrooms and green pepper. Bake until cheese melts.

Scientifically Speaking



Why do we have wax in our ears?

You may not like having wax in your ears, but it's there for a good reason—it keeps your ears in good working order. Wax is produced by glands near the eardrum and continually washes away down the ear canal. One of the most important things wax does is protect the eardrum from bacteria. It also keeps the eardrum moist and pliable so that it can respond to different sounds. And if that's not enough to make you glad about wax, then what about this? Earwax also prevents dust and bugs from getting stuck in your ears!

Martha's Way Or The Real Way...

Martha Stewart's Way...

Stuff a miniature marshmallow in the bottom of a sugar cone to prevent ice cream drips.

The Real Way...

Just suck the ice cream out of the bottom of the cone, for Pete's sake!

You are probably lying on the couch with your feet up eating it, anyway!

Martha Stewart's Way...

To keep potatoes from budding, place an apple in the bag with the potatoes.

The Real Way...

Buy Hungry Jack mashed potato mix, keep it in the pantry for up to a year.

Martha Stewart's Way...

When a cake recipe calls for flouring the baking pan, use a bit of the dry cake mix instead and there won't be any white mess on the outside of the cake.

The Real Way...

Go to the bakery! They'll even decorate it for you.

Martha Stewart's Way...

If you accidentally oversalt a dish while it's still cooking, drop in a peeled potato and it will absorb the excess salt for an instant "fix-me-up."

The Real Way...

If you oversalt a dish while you are cooking, that's too bad. Please recite with me the real woman's motto: "I made it and you will eat it and I don't care how bad it tastes!"

Martha Stewart's Way...

Wrap celery in aluminum foil when putting in the refrigerator and it will keep for weeks.

The Real Way...

Celery? Never heard of it!

Martha Stewart's Way...

Brush some beaten egg white over pie crust before baking to yield a beautiful glossy finish

The Real Way...

The Mrs. Smith frozen pie directions do not include brushing egg whites over the crust so I don't.

Martha Stewart's Way...

Cure for headaches: take a lime, cut it in half and rub it on your forehead. The throbbing will go away.

The Real Way...

Take a lime, mix it with tequila, chill and drink!

Martha Stewart's Way...

If you have a problem opening jars, try using latex dishwashing gloves.

They give a non-slip grip that makes opening jars easy.

The Real Way...

Go ask that very cute neighbor if he can open it for you.

Martha Stewart's Way...

Don't throw out all that leftover wine. Freeze into ice cubes for future use in casseroles and sauces.

The Real Way...

Leftover wine??????????? HELLO !!!!!!!



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We hope you catch all the holiday cheer we're throwing your way!

Best wishes for a happy and healthy year

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What's With Boxing Day?

Claim: The name of Boxing Day comes from the need to rid the house of empty boxes the day after Christmas.

Status: *False.*

Even though Boxing Day is celebrated in Australia, Britain, New Zealand, and Canada, not all that many in those countries have much of a notion as to why they get the 26th of December off. Boxing Day might well be a statutory holiday in some of those lands, but it's not a well understood one.

Despite the lively images suggested by the name, it has nothing to do with pugilistic expositions between tanked-up family members who have dearly been looking forward to taking a round out of each other for the past year. Likewise, it does not gain its name from the overpowering need to rid the house of an excess of wrappings and mountains of now useless cardboard boxes the day after St. Nick arrived to turn a perfectly charming and orderly home into a maelstrom of discarded tissue paper.

The name also has nothing to do with returning unwanted gifts to the stores they came from, hence its common association with hauling about boxes on the day after Christmas.

The Actual Meaning of Boxing Day??

The holiday's roots can be traced to Britain, where Boxing Day is also known as St. Stephen's Day. Reduced to the simplest essence, its origins are found in a long-ago practice of giving cash or durable goods to those of the lower classes. Gifts among equals were exchanged on or before Christmas Day, but beneficences to those less fortunate were bestowed the day after.

And that's about as much as anyone can definitively say about its origin because once you step beyond that point, it's straight into the quagmire of debated claims and dueling folklorists. Which, by the way, is what we're about to muddy our boots with.

Although there is general agreement that the holiday is of British origin and it has to do with giving presents to the less fortunate, there is still dispute as to how the name came about or precisely what unequal relationship is being recognized.

At various times, the following "origins" have been loudly asserted as the correct one:

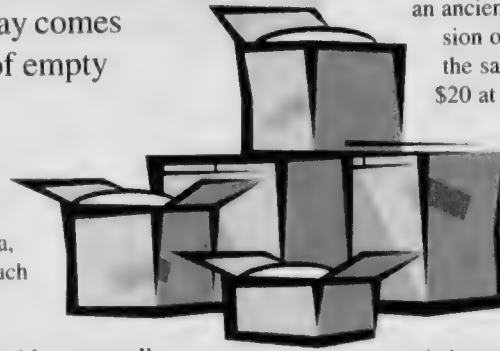
Centuries ago, ordinary members of the merchant class gave boxes of food and fruit to tradespeople and servants the day after Christmas in an ancient form of Yuletide tip. These gifts were an expression of gratitude to those who worked for them, in much the same way that one now tips the paperboy an extra \$20 at Christmastime or slips the building's superintendent a bottle of fine whisky. Those long-ago gifts were done up in boxes, hence the day coming to be known as "Boxing Day."

Christmas celebrations in the old days entailed bringing everyone together from all over a large estate, thus creating one of the rare instances when everyone could be found in one place at one time. This gathering of his extended family, so to speak, presented the lord of the manor with a ready-made opportunity to easily hand out that year's stipend of necessities. Thus, the day after Christmas, after all the partying was over and it was almost time to go back to far-flung homesteads, serfs were presented with their annual allotment of practical goods. Who got what was determined by the status of the worker and his relative family size, with spun cloth, leather goods, durable food supplies, tools, and whatnot being handed out. Under this explanation, there was nothing voluntary about this transaction; the lord of the manor was obligated to supply these goods. The items were chucked into boxes, one box for each family, to make carrying away the results of this annual restocking easier; thus, the day came to be known as "Boxing Day."

Many years ago, on the day after Christmas, servants in Britain carried boxes to their masters when they arrived for the day's work. It was a tradition that on this day all employers would put coins in the boxes as a special end-of-the-year gift. In a closely-related version of this explanation, apprentices and servants would on that day get to smash open small earthenware boxes left for them by their masters. These boxes would house small sums of money specifically left for them.

This dual-versioned theory melds the two previous ones together into a new form — namely, the employer who was *obligated* to hand out something on Boxing Day, but this time to recipients who were not working the land for him and thus were *not* dependent on him for all they wore and ate. The "box" thus becomes something beyond ordinary compensation (in a way goods to landed serfs was not), yet it's also not a gift in that there's nothing voluntary about it. Under this theory, the boxes are an early form of Christmas bonus, something employees see as their entitlement.

Boxes in churches for seasonal donations to the needy were opened on Christmas Day, and the contents distributed by the clergy the following day. The contents of this alms box originated with the ordinary folks in the parish who were under no direct obligation to provide anything at all and were certainly not tied to the recipients by an employer/employee relationship. In this case, the "box" in "Boxing Day" comes from that one gigantic lockbox the donations were left in.



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OR NOT!

Canada was first introduced to the Christmas tree in 1781 in Sorel, Quebec, by a German immigrant, Baron Friederick von Riedesel. The Baron's tree was a balsam fir cut from the dense forest of Quebec and was decorated with myriads of white candles.

In 1979, the National Christmas Tree was not lighted except for the top ornament? This was done in honour of the American hostages in Iran.

The first decorated Christmas was in Riga, Latvia in 1510.

Growing Christmas trees provides a habitat for wildlife.

Recycled trees have been used to make sand and soil erosion barriers and been placed in ponds for fish shelter.

Christmas trees take 7-10 years to mature.

Trees also act as air pollution filters and can remove up to 13 tons of airborne pollutants per acre per year.

The use of evergreen trees to celebrate the winter season occurred before the birth of Christ.

100,000 people are employed in the Christmas tree industry.

98 percent of all Christmas trees are grown on farms.

More than 1,000,000 acres of land have been planted to Christmas trees.

73 million new Christmas trees will be planted this year.

More than 330,000 real Christmas trees are sold via e-commerce or catalogs.

In 2000 31 percent of north American household had a real tree, 49 percent had a fake tree and 21 percent had no tree.

On average, over 2,000 Christmas trees are planted per acre.

You should never burn your Christmas tree in the fireplace. It can contribute to creosote build-up.

Artificial trees will last for six years in your home, but for centuries in a landfill.

Thomas Edison's assistant, Edward Johnson, came up with the idea of electric lights for Christmas trees in 1882.

Christmas tree lights were first mass-produced in 1890.

In 1963, the National Christmas Tree was not lighted until December 22nd because of a national 30-day period of mourning following the assassination of President Kennedy.

Teddy Roosevelt banned the Christmas tree from the White House for environmental reasons.

In the first week, a tree in your home will consume as much as a quart of water per day.

Christmas Tree Facts That You Might Not Know

Tinsel contained lead at one time, now it's made of plastic. Real Christmas trees are involved in less than one-tenth of one percent of residential fires and only when ignited by some external ignition sources.

2-3 seedlings are planted for every harvested Christmas tree. 59 percent of real Christmas trees harvested are recycled in community programs.

An acre of Christmas trees provides for the daily oxygen requirements of 18 people.

In 1900, large stores started to erect big illuminated Christmas trees.

The first printed reference to Christmas trees appeared in Germany in 1531.

The top selling Christmas trees are Balsam fir, Douglas fir, Fraser fir, Noble fir, Scotch pine and White pine.



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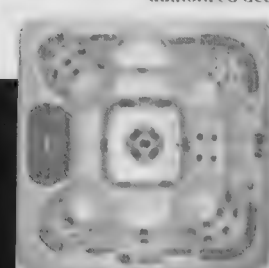


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A Christmas Story

by George Farrell



Ann Barker: A Lady With A Flare For Indoor Holiday Decorating

For Ann Barker the true meaning of Christmas comes from within. It's no surprise therefore to see that within the Barker home there are no external lights to celebrate the season. Husband Don "refuses to climb trees," but

the inside of the Barker household is festooned with a cornucopia of Christmas collectibles worthy of some future Antiques Roadshow. But more on the Christmas collection in a minute. It's what lies behind such a collection that has me interested, and to find that out I soon realized, was to get a real glimpse into the make-up of a remarkable Highlands citizen.

Born in London England, a teen-aged Ann Barker immigrated to Canada with her Mom and Dad in 1957. They settled in Willowdale, Ontario. Just one day after their arrival Ann met her future husband Don Barker, and about a year after that they were married. Ann explains how they arrived in the Highlands. "The place where Don worked was going under, and we saw the writing on the wall. One of our friends from the city was from up here and we came up to have a look, with a possible move in mind. We looked all over cottage country, but nothing felt

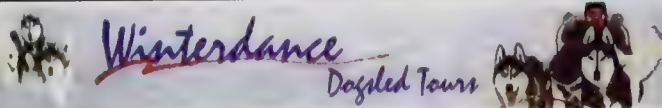
quite right." That was until they saw the sale sign on the Lil'Chick Inn on Highway 35. They decided to buy it. Some of you might remember the Lil'Chick Inn. It was right next door the Clansmen Motel. The building was constructed by Fred Ohland in 1946, and it was run as a summer restaurant. The Barkers moved in on July 15 1974, and Ann ran the restaurant for four and a half years. In the meantime Don, who was in the oil business, was servicing

furnaces for John Francis Fuels and Ed Youngdale. "It just got too much trying to run both businesses, so the decision was made that Don should open his own business, which became and still is, Don Barker Heating and Cooling," explains Ann. "We closed the restaurant and renovated it into our house, and we have been living here ever since."

Don Barker became involved in the Stanhope fire department as a volunteer, an activity which he continued for 20 years. "When we had the restaurant,"

Ann Barker cont'd... pg. 69...





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Teddy Time

Haliburton Ontario

**Not Quite
Main Street.
County Rd 21.
Haliburton**

Ann Barker Cont'd...

... from pg. 68

Ann says, "we became a dispatch receiver for emergency fire calls and I did this for 30 years, until 911 came along a couple of years ago. We were one of 5 such dispatch receivers in the Stanhope area. Ann's volunteering didn't stop there. "I was on the recreation department where we did rec' things for kids in the community, like Fun Days which we held at the Stanhope Park. The activities



included three-legged races, horseshoes, fishing for prizes in a pond-it was a family day, like a fair without the rides, and we never charged for anything except the beef barbeque. It was

so successful that the Science Centre in Toronto used to send their bus, which showed kids hands-on demonstrations. We were the smallest community they would go to, but they would have over a thousand people go through the bus. In the evenings we would put on a dance and we would make some money on it to help defray any costs we had." Ann sadly recalls, "There was a free senior's tea too, but it disappoints me to say that the Fun Day is no more. It was a good day, but now things cost so much more than they used to."

Ann was also on Stanhope Council for 14 years as councilor and Deputy Reeve, and she was a County Councilor for 2 years. She served on the Chamber of Commerce committee, and on the committee of the Haliburton County Development Corporation. But perhaps what Ann is most proud of is her work with the committee against family violence, "because that work still continues today with the YWCA women's safety network," she enthuses.

So the picture emerges of a committed woman who has volunteered her time to numerous committees and good causes. "It is the spirit of giving without expecting anything in return. The reward is seeing the fruits of your labour. It's like Christmas, only giving year round," says Ann. "Christmas to me was always special. In England during the war I was very young and Christmas time was a family time, and we'd all gather at my grandmother's house. I always admired my grandmother who would do so much for our family. She had a hard life but I never heard her complain," she recalls.

It is due to the inspiration of those memories and the fact that Don refused to climb trees to hang lights that Ann started to decorate inside. "I've been accumulating Christmas collectibles for about 20 years now," she says. And what a collection! There are Christmas bears, angels and Santa's, music boxes, musical dolls, nutcracker collections, blue and white singing snowmen, Precious Moments nativity and sugar town villages, and carousels. Words and pictures don't do the collection justice, because many of the pieces move, and make sounds, so that if she had all of them

Ann Barker cont'd... pg. 71...



HALIBURTON COUNTY
HOMEBUILDERS ASSOC

9th Annual Charity Hockey Tournament

January 26, 27, & 28, 2007

Dysart Community Centre (Haliburton Arena)
& Lloyd Watson Community Centre (Wilberforce Arena)

Games will begin Friday night and
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FEE: \$550 per team (in advance)

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X-Country Skiing Club Getting Ready For 2007 Season

The Haliburton Ski Club is gearing up for another great season, the 30th anniversary. The club has programs for all ages and abilities, and it has a full calendar of events planned. The first two important dates are the beginning of Jackrabbit ski school for youngster up to 13 years old (Jan 6th) and the Haliburton Open ski race (Jan. 13th). This year's events also include ski orienteering and a double-cross event—think cross-country meets boarder-cross.

The club began with a few enthusiastic individuals skiing on sugar bush trails on land owned by Lee Blair, near what is now the Delta Pinestone. By the winter of 1976-1977 a club had been formed using 5km of trails made with manual labour on the land of Glebe Park. The 5km loop still follows much of that original trail. In the early days, trail grooming consisted of waiting and hoping someone else had skied in a track before you got there.

Today members have access to 100km of groomed skiing around the county. You will see skiers pulling their babies and toddlers in ski pulks. Grandparents ski along to keep a watchful eye and do the important work of worrying about whether those young racers might not be going too fast or having too much fun.

Don't forget that there are 1.5km of lit skiing available at Glebe Park—the lights are on from dusk to 9:00 pm nightly until the end of the season.

Jackrabbit program Offered for Children Aged 4 – 12

As usual, the club is proud to offer one of the best Jackrabbit programs in the province. The Jackrabbit Ski League is a skill development program with badge levels for children aged 4 – 12. Each child is registered with Cross-Country Canada. The Saturday classes start with warm-up exercises followed by nordic skills and games, depending on the ability and age of the child. At 2:45, everyone head to the clubhouse for hot chocolate. "There's no better way to learn the fundamentals of skiing," says Blake.

For season's membership information contact Joleen at 489-4850. For Jackrabbit information call Jane at 457-1465, or check out all the information on-line at skihaliburton.com.

Ski Club events 2007

Dec. 31st New Year's Eve Ski at Glebe Park—Lights on until 11:00 pm

Jan. 1st Club Chairman's New Year's Levée, Moosewoods Cabin 10:00am-1:00pm

Jan. 6th Jackrabbit lessons begin 1:30pm, Glebe Park

Jan. 13th Haliburton Open — Glebe Park 9:00am

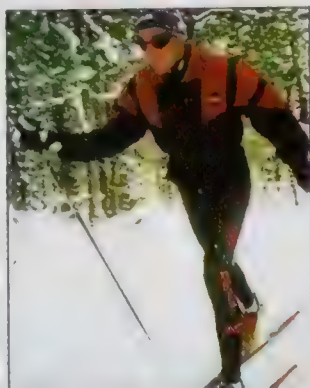
Jan 13th Team Sprints 3:00 pm Glebe Park Free t-shirt for participants 12 and under

Jan 3rd, Feb 2nd, March 3rd Full Moon Skiing, watch the website for last minute updates

February 10th Double Cross! event 3p.m. Glebe Park—Free ski buff for participants 12 and under

February 24th Ski Orienteering 11am Glebe Park

February 24th Ski Tournament 1pm Glebe Park—Free t-shirt for participants 12 and under



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Ann Barker Cont'd...

... from pg. 69



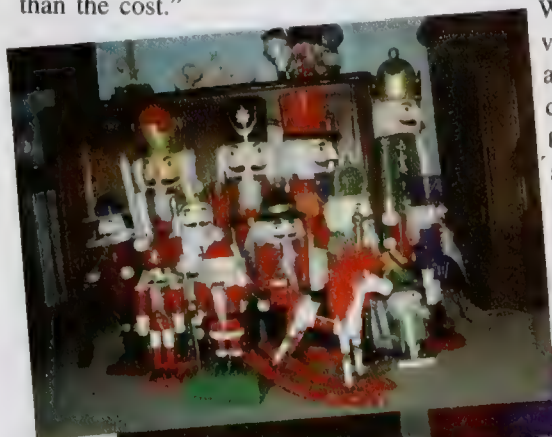
Pictured are just a handful of the many decorations that reside in the Barker household.



switched on at the same time the noise would be a cacophony to rival a schoolyard of screaming kids.

Ann and Don's own kids are all grown up now. Stephen lives locally and is working with Don. David lives in Norwood and Leanna resides in Inisfill, so Ann claims that "the collection is the one thing that I actually do for me." Yet in the next sentence she says "but I love it when any of the local children come in. There are 7 dozen candy canes on the tree and they can take the ones they want." It seems to me that Ann is still reaching within herself in order to give to others. "It's giving from the heart," she says. It's the spirit of it. If it's given from the heart it means more than the cost."

Whether it's volunteering or a gift, who can disagree with those sentiments? Merry Christmas!



Richard Forget & Iona Ferrean
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SEASONS GREETINGS!



We wish you all a safe and happy holiday season & best wishes in the new year!

Richard Forget & Iona Ferrean

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Real Estate TIPS

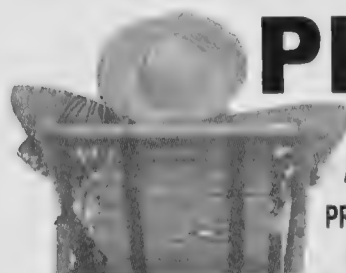
by Lea Kitler

How and When Listing Commissions are Earned

Your listing agreement specifies a listing price and commission. Your Realtor's job is to bring a "ready, willing and able" buyer to present an offer. When you reach an accepted offer with the buyer, then the realtor has done their job and will earn the commission. Once the sale has closed, the real estate broker gets paid from the proceeds of the sale and then the realtor gets their split.

If the buyer proves unable or unwilling to conclude the sale, the property is placed back on the market and the realtor has to begin earning their commission all over again.

However, if the seller backs out or does not accept an offer that meets the price and terms of the listing agreement, the listing broker has still earned the commission. They may want to be paid, even though you did not actually sell your home. Therefore, it is very important to carefully consider every detail when completing your listing agreement and accepting an offer to buy your property.



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Haliburton Highlands Landowner Services Directory 2007

The Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Council is currently gathering information for the Third edition of the *Landowner Services Directory*. The purpose of the *Landowner Services Directory* is to provide private landowners with a reference list of resource management professionals and agencies who provide services and information related to natural resources in and around the community. There is NO FEE for companies and businesses to participate, and the document is also distributed to landowners FREE of charge. If you own or operate a business related to resource management you are encouraged to post a listing in this FREE service.

Previous editions have included listings in the following categories:

Forestry - Forestry Consultants, Foresters, Tree Marking, Loggers and Contractors, Horse Loggers, Logging Equipment Suppliers, Veneer Mills and Buyers, Sawmills, Custom Milling, Pulp Mills, Kilns, Planers, Specialty Wood Products, Firewood, MFTIP Approvers, Tree Removal, Tree Nurseries, Tree Planting.

Education and Training - Training Facilities, Cutter/Skidder Certification, Mechanical Harvesting Certification.

Fish and Wildlife - Hatcheries and Fish Farms, Rehabilitation Centers, Veterinary Specialists, Pest Diagnostic and Control Services.

Environmental Expertise - Environmental Consultants, Shoreline Naturalization Specialists, Landscape Architects, Wetland Evaluators, Planners.

Map Products - GPS and GIS Mapping Consultants, Surveyors

Alternative Energy - Suppliers, Providers, Installers, Consultants

Other - Log Trucking companies, Excavation, Road Building, Septic Installation, Environmental Spills Clean-up.

To be listed in the Third edition of the *Landowner Services Directory* the following information is required by **Monday January 15, 2007**: Category, Subcategory, Contact Name, Business Name, Mailing Address, Telephone, Facsimile, E-Mail, Website. *If available, please include a copy of a business card and/or a brochure.*

Please forward your contact information and inquiries to: Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Council - Box 820, 12698 Highway 35, Minden, ON, K0M 2K0 - Phone: 705-286-5206 - Fax: 705-286-4355

Email: nicole.tuyten@mnr.gov.on.ca



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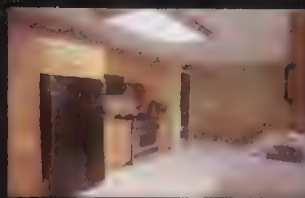




**Owner to Owner
real estate Ltd.**

SEASONS GREETINGS!

Haliburton's smallest real estate firm wishes you and your family a safe and enjoyable holiday season. Thank you to all of the people that made our first year a success. We look forward to serving you in the years to come



Custom Brick Home w/ Acreage- \$284,900

Custom-Built Brick Home on over 21 well-landscaped acres of Haliburton wilderness. Plenty of space to play with large pond w/dock and many outbuildings including Guest House, Garage/Workshop, Boathouse and Sugar Shack. Well Kept family home includes massive master bedroom, large stone, propane fireplace, newer kitchen w/propane stovetop and ceramic tile, and large workshop/fitness centre. For entertaining, this home has extensive decking w/DecTec™ waterproofing, large gazebo and fenced in yard for the kids or pets. Trails cut through a mature mix of hard and softwoods lead to the Burnt River. Year round road ensures easy access through all-seasons. For more details call.....705-447-3320.



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Large family home tastefully decorated in the heart of the Haliburton Highlands. 4 BR home built in 2005 and immaculately finished. Hardwood and Ceramic throughout, with custom windows and cathedral ceiling. Custom Kitchen with maple cabinets, breakfast bar, b/in MW and DW, and extensive pot lighting. Efficient FAO furnace w/HRV™. Master Bedroom w/large ensuite - walk-in shower and Jacuzzi-tub. 26x30 insulated garage w/hydro. Minutes to town this home is on a year-round road close to OFSC trails and public lake access. Call the Owner.705.457.9343.



Here's your chance to get in on the Eagle Lake Boom! Approx. 800 sq ft winterized chalet with full septic and drilled well sits just minutes from the top of Sir Sam's Ski Area. Awesome rental potential, or bring your finishing touches and stay for the long haul! Extremely Private, but close to all amenities. With the ski season upon us, this one will not last! Call 519-792-9132



19 ACRES EAGLE LAKE BUILDING LOT! This 19 acre lot is located directly off County Rd 14 (Haliburton Lake Rd). With the driveway in and partially cleared building site you can build your dream home or getaway here. Mixed Terrain with 2 ponds, plenty of wildlife and gorgeous sunsets, this lot offers plenty. For more call the Owner.....705-754-3227

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Information has been provided by the seller, and Owner to Owner will not be held liable for errors or omissions resulting from the ad. *call for details

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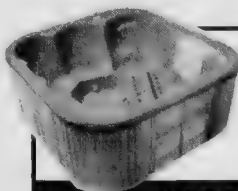
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754-1078 "Relax in your hot tub - Let us do the work"

What's a hairdressers's favourite Christmas song?
'Oh comb all ye faithful'

What did one Angel say to the other ?
Halo there !

How to cats greet each other at Christmas?
"A furry merry Christmas & Happy mew year!"

What does Father Christmas write on his Christmas cards ?
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ (No-L !!) !

What do Eskimos use to hold their homes together?
Ig."glue"!

How do elves greet each other?
"Small world, isn't it?"

How long should an elf's legs be?
Just long enough to reach the ground!

If there were 11 elves, and another one came along, what would he be?
The twelf

What did the elf say was the first step in using a Christmas computer?
"First, YULE LOGon"!

What did Santa say to Mrs. Claus when he looked out the window?
Looks like "rain", "Dear"!

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Shh... that's the sound of
nobody caring what you
think.

1	D	I	R	E		5	C	L	A	D		9	L	A	D	E		
13	E	R	O	D	14		15	H	I	R	E		16	I	R	A	N	
17	E	M	A	I	L		18	I	N	C	O	N	19	C	E	R	T	
20	P	A	R	T	E	R	R	E		22	D	I	E	T	E	R		
					23	I	G	O	R		24	C	A	N	N	E	R	Y
25	A	D	27	J	O	I	N		28	M	O	R	E	S				
29	C	O	U	N	S	E	L	O	R		31	E	L	K	E			
35	H	E	L		36	T	E	A	R	F	U	L		39	A	I	R	
40	Y	S	E	R	41				42	C	A	U	T	I	O	N	E	D
					44	E	X	P	E	L		47	H	A	N	D	L	E
48	E	V	O	L	V	E	D		51	B	E	I	T					
52	R	E	P	A	I	D		53	C	O	R	S	A	I	R	S		
57	I	N	I	T	I	A	L	L	Y		59	O	R	N	O	T		
60	K	A	N	E		61	N	E	E	D		62	N	I	O	B	E	
63	A	L	E	S		64	T	W	O	S		65	O	R	E	M		

12 Days, \$75,000: Cost Of Christmas Rises Again

One partridge still only \$15, but don't even ask about the pear tree



The cost of "The Twelve Days of Christmas" is on the rise — again. In 1984, after all the receipts were added up, the cost of "The Twelve Days of Christmas" would have set you back \$12,623— the goods alone accounting for 62 percent of your total bill. Today, the numbers tell a different story.

Every year since 1984, PNC Advisors has provided a tongue-in-cheek economic analysis, based on the cost of goods and services purchased by the True Love in the holiday classic, "The Twelve Days of Christmas."

The Christmas Price Index has consistently reflected changes in the economy and continues to do so.

As part of its annual tradition, PNC Advisors also tabulates the "true cost of Christmas," which is the total cost of all of the items in the famous carol, including the repetitions.

Buying each item in the song just once — from a partridge in a pear tree to a dozen drummers drumming — will cost you \$18,920, or 3.1 percent more than last year, according to PNC Financial Services Group. The total cost of items gifted by a True Love who repeats all of the song's verses costs more than ever before — \$75,122 — for all 364 items, up from \$72,608 in 2005, a 3.5 percent increase.

"After years of stagnation, wages for skilled workers, including the song's dancers and musicians, have increased as the labor market has tightened," said Jeff Kleintop, chief investment strategist for PNC Wealth Management. "Also, a decline in the housing market has dampened demand for luxury goods, such as gold rings."

While prices for the partridge, two turtle doves, three French hens, six geese and seven swans remained the same as last year, higher wages made the lords a-leaping, ladies dancing and pipers piping costlier.

The nine ladies dancing earned \$4,759, 4 percent more, according to Philadanco, the Philadelphia Dance Co. The lords a-leaping got a 3 percent pay raise, while the drummers drumming and pipers piping earned 3.4 percent more.

The maids a-milking, however, weren't as lucky. They make the federal minimum wage, which has been \$5.15 per hour since 1997.

Each year, the Pittsburgh-based bank does a tongue-in-cheek tally of how much the swans, geese and drummers would cost if you purchased them at today's prices. PNC has been calculating the cost of Christmas since 1984.

For the price of buying all 364 items, you could get a brand new, fully-loaded special edition Hummer 2 sport utility vehicle, fully-loaded Cadillac XLR two-door roadster, a cruise around the world, a 5-carat diamond ring or top-of-the-line Cartier or Piaget watch.



Wishing Everyone A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Back row: Doug, Josh, Ray, Fred, Lindsay, Susan
Middle: Jackie, Laura, Cheryl, Sue, Judy,
Front: Claudette, Andrea, Brandi,
Absent: Lacey, Heather, Katelyn, Nicole, Mark, Sophia,
Don, Randy, Kyle

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The Cost of Christmas cont'd...

... from pg. 76

Trying to find cheaper deals online won't help, either. The 364 items online would cost \$125,767, including shipping, compared to \$123,846 last year. You would spend \$30,330 online for one of each item.

The nine ladies dancing are the costliest items on the list again, at \$4,759. The seven swans a-swimming cost \$4,200. And a pear tree saw the biggest jump, going from \$89.99 in 2005 to \$129.99 this year. The cheapest? As always, the partridge, still \$15.

PNC Advisors is the wealth management unit of The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc., (NYSE: PNC), one of the nation's largest diversified financial services companies, operating businesses engaged in regional community banking, wholesale banking, wealth management, asset management and global fund processing services.

On the first day ...

The cost of "The Twelve Days of Christmas" is up 3.1 percent from 2005, according to a survey.

12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS	PRICE INDEX, 2006	CHANGE FROM 2005
1 Partridge in a pear tree	\$144.99	38.1%
Partridge	15.00	
Pear tree	129.99	44.4
2 Turtle doves	40.00	
3 French hens	45.00	
4 Calling birds	479.96	20.0
5 Gold rings	325.00	
6 Geese-a-laying	300.00	
7 Swans-a-swimming	4,200.00	
8 Maids-a-milking	41.20	
9 Ladies dancing	4,759.19	4.0
10 Lords-a-leaping	4,160.25	3.0
11 Pipers piping	2,124.00	3.4
12 Drummers drumming	2,301.00	3.4
Total index	18,920.59	3.1

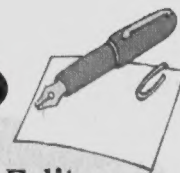
NOTE: Percent change from 2005 not listed equals 0.0

SOURCE: PNC Financial Services Group

AP

If you have worn shorts and a parka at the same time, you live in Ontario.

Open Forum



Letters To The Editor

Thank you for your interesting article about Charlie and Ethel Muli and their dealership: Minden Subaru.

I wanted to point out one error/ommission. At the beginning of your article you stated that for the past 80 years, until the beginning of Minden Subaru, Haliburton County had only been represented by North American car dealerships.

I would like to point out that my late parents, Lloyd and Rosamond Coneybeare, were the successful owners and operators of Coneybeare Motors, in Haliburton, from 1947 until the business was sold in 1981 (due to ill health). They were the first dealership in Ontario to sell British Leyland cars (formerly BMC-British Motor Corp.) Many a spiffy TR6, and MG Midget were sold - not to mention the ever popular Mini. In fact, I learned how to drive on an automatic mini!!! My brother John, the best mechanic in the world in my opinion, began his career with British cars.

Later they expanded the business to include American Motors (later bought by Chrysler).

In loving memory of my parents I felt it necessary to point this out!

Many thanks

Linda Coneybeare



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Church Events

Annual Christmas Eve Carol Service

Sunday December 24th. - 7:00 PM

Eagle Lake Community Church - 2605 Eagle Lake Road,
Eagle Lake 754-2240 - Everyone Welcome

**Eagle Lake
Community Church**

**Annual
Christmas Eve
Carol Service**

Sunday Dec 24th - 7 pm



Everyone Welcome!
2605 Eagle Lk Rd
754-2240

A Fun New Year's Celebration Planned For Family Fun

There is an exciting New Year's Celebration planned for all that includes a variety of activities all at the beautiful Camp Wanakita, located near Donald. The New Years Family Camp offers a great holiday package from December 29 to January 1st.

Included in the fun is campfires, outdoor games, cook outs, hot chocolate by the fire, great food, tobogganing, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, broomball, skating, kid's events, crafts, and of course the New Year's Eve Celebrations.

The New Years Eve dinner consists of a huge banquet followed by an evening of planned fun activities with a celebration for the whole family at 9 p.m. (midnight in Greenland). Bring your party favours such as noisemakers, hats, etc.

Also, families are welcome to enjoy a day of downhill skiing at Sir Sam's Resort at an additional cost.

Folks are welcome to arrive after 1 p.m. on December 29th. Dinner is served at 5:30 p.m.

If you have any other questions or for pricing etc..., please do not hesitate to call the camp at 457-2132 or 1-800-387-5081.

**The winner of last's month draw for dinner
for two is: Tina Palmer of Haliburton**

Stocking Stuffer Special The Haliburton Highlands DVD

is now on sale for only \$10 following locations

Agnes Jamieson Gallery, Minden
The Storeroom, Minden
Golden Stationers, Minden
Visitor Information Center, Minden
Wintergreen Maple Syrup Shack
Stedmans, Minden

V & S Dept Store, Haliburton
Highland Images, Haliburton
Maple Moon, Haliburton
Robinson's General Store, Dorset
Fleming College, Haliburton
Agnew's General Store, Wilberforce

**The life & beauty of the Haliburton Highlands like you've
never seen it before in all four glorious seasons!**

Las Vegas Churches

This may come as a surprise to those of you not living in Las Vegas, but there are more churches than casinos.

Not surprisingly, some worshippers at Sunday services will give casino chips rather than cash when the basket is passed.

Since they get chips from many different casinos, the churches have devised a method to collect the offerings.

The churches send all their collected chips to a nearby Franciscan monastery for sorting and then the chips are taken to the casinos of origin and cashed in.

... This is done by chip monks!

Oh, I am so sorry, you didn't even see it coming did you? Gotcha !!

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Spot Sam The Holiday Advertising Man for Your Chance to Win **\$100!**



How would you like to win \$100? Well it's easy with the Communicator! Just read all the ads and keep an eye out for Sam - The Advertising Man. We will be hiding a few Sams in various ads throughout the publication, so look for more than one. Once you think you have found all the Sams you can, write down how many you spotted, in what ads, the publication date, your name, address and telephone number, and mail them, email them or fax them to the Highlands Communicator. The first correct answer pulled from entries received wins \$100! It's that easy and it's fun too!

There were 12 sams in the last issue. They were hidden in the following ads:

CRS, Emmerson Rentall, Haliburton Lumber,
Pinckard - Wyjad - Fleming & Associates, Bonnie
View Inn, All That Jazz, Axis Pharmacy, Prudential
- Lea Kitler, Haliburton Artesian Well Drillers, Don
Barker Heating & Cooling, Andy Billings Logging,
Yvonne Knedrick,

The winner of last month's Spot Sam
contest is
Opal Crowe of Minden

In our efforts to help people looking for work get a job, we always offer **FREE** help wanted ads for businesses. If you are looking for workers, call us at 457-9999 or leave a message on the Classified answering machine at 455-9928. Help wanted ads are **FREE!!** Lets help Haliburton County & Surrounding Area find work!!

Health

GOT GOJI JUICE? Get Himalayan Goji® Juice and get on the road to health. Learn more, call Anita Kuno 457-2753.

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Combo Cardio / & Light
Activity Fitness
2 Locations: Minden &
Haliburton
Certified Trainer Lori Kah 457-
3224

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9 AM TO 5:30 PM

SEARS

Haliburton

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**Gloria Carnochan
Cindy Muenzel**
Sales Representatives

Kennisis and Redstone Lakes Realty Centre

**705-754-1932
1-800-203-7471**

The Mother Daughter Team

gcarnochan@bellnet.ca www.gloriaandcindy.com

ROYAL LEPAGE
LAKES OF HALIBURTON
BROKERAGE



Bring the groceries!!! One of a kind opportunity on Kennisis Lake. This beautiful lake front property has it all with south to southeast exposure. Features are 3 bedrooms (2 with balconies), 2 baths, open concept with vaulted ceilings, hardwood & tile floors. Built in appliances, main floor laundry and sunken living room with propane fireplace. The best part is it comes furnished. There is also a double car garage and Bunkie/storage.

\$518,000.00



Kennisis Lake - 4 season 2 bdrm cottage on year round road, drive to back door. Beautifully tiered frontage, with it die for big lake view of Kennisis Lake. 2 islands give protection to the shore line. Deep water swimming from a large deck and dock system.

\$359,000.00



Kennisis Lake - Privacy plus on the 748 ft. 2.84 acres shoreline of Kennisis Lake. Trees, rocks, deep water & great view, south exposure, driveway onto property. Build your dream cottage now.

\$399,000.00



**Merry Christmas
Happy Holidays to all**

Welcome to Cottage Country to all those new buyers. We will miss those of you who have moved on. We look forward to working with those of you who haven't found their dream cottage yet. Patience is a virtue. Winter is upon us now and the ground is white. I love winter especially early in the morning when the sun glistens on the frost coating the boughs and tall grasses. We are blessed to be able to live in a post card setting with the snow hanging off the evergreens. The lakes are usually frozen for Christmas, but not safe until mid January. Be sure to ask the permanent residents if the lakes are being traveled on.

The Mother/Daughter Team want to **THANK ALL OF YOU** for your support and we are here to help you in anyway we can.

We wish you all the best for the holiday season and may you have good health and all your dreams come true in the new year.

*Gloria and Cindy, and families
Avery*



Commercial building and 2 BR home on busy highway frontage. Ample parking, paved drive on Hwy 35. 3000 sq. ft. new oil furnace, loading dock, large basement, office space, hardwood floors, updated carpet, plumbing, roof & windows, move in condition. Endless possibilities! Enquire for more details!

\$399,000.00



Little Redstone - Imagine owning 8 acres on one of Haliburton's premier lakes. Miles and miles of boating on 2 lake chain, 1300 ft of shoreline, level property, well treed. Ideal safe play area for the family. Cottage has approx 1800sq ft of living space, 2 baths, laundry, family RM, & LG deck for entertaining. Water furnace with air conditioning make this an economical comfortable cottage or year round home. Insulated garage/workshop with LG storage area attached. Plenty of room to store the men's toys.

\$695,000.00



Private Lake - 129 acres - Haliburton Highlands. Nature at it's best. 129 acre retreat estate type property with a private lake, mature forest of pine and hardwoods. A 5 bdrm + loft cottage sits on the shore line of Torch Lake. The cottage is full of old country charm, massive stone fireplace in LR and backing the DR. Wood floors and all wood interior with cathedral ceilings. Large deck for entertaining or just enjoy the view. This property has many possibilities. Family retreat, Bed and Breakfast, Children's Camp, Retreat Center, possible severances of lots, also appears to be 50 to 60 acres of gravel, sand and great timber.

\$910,000.00



Royal Lepage, Now The Largest Real Estate Firm In The Haliburton Highlands With Four Offices To Serve You Even Better